



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 4  
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER  
61 FORSYTH STREET  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

JUN 3 0 2011

**GENERAL NOTICE/DEMAND/CONSENT DECREE LETTER**  
**URGENT LEGAL MATTER**  
**PROMPT REPLY NECESSARY**  
**VIA UPS OR EXPRESS MAIL NEXT DAY DELIVERY**

Shawn Roland, Environmental Manager  
Signal Mountain Cement Co.  
P.O. Box 4304  
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37405

Re: General Notice/Demand/Consent Decree Letter for the Ward Transformer Superfund Site  
located in Raleigh, Wake County, North Carolina (Site)

Dear Mr. Roland:

This letter notifies you of the potential liability of Signal Mountain Cement Co. (hereinafter "your company"), in connection with the above-referenced Site, as defined by Section 107(a) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), 42 U.S.C. § 9607 (a), as amended. This letter also demands reimbursement of response costs that have been expended at the Site, including interest thereon; notifies your company that special notice procedures are being waived and that negotiations with the United States Environmental Protection Agency regarding the performance and funding of upcoming response activities at the Site automatically begins upon receipt of this letter and terminates on August 15, 2011; and provides general and site-specific information in order to assist your company in the negotiation process, specifically a Record of Decision and a draft Consent Decree.

The EPA has documented the release or threatened release of hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants at the above-referenced Site. The EPA has spent public funds and is considering spending additional public funds on actions to investigate and control such releases or threatened releases at the Site. Unless the EPA reaches an agreement under which a potentially responsible party (PRP) or parties (PRPs) will properly perform or finance such actions, the EPA may perform these actions pursuant to Section 104 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9604, and/or take enforcement actions as deemed necessary.

**Notice of Potential Liability**

PRPs under CERCLA include: the current owners or operators of the Site; persons who at the time of disposal of hazardous substances owned or operated the Site; persons who by contract, agreement, or otherwise arranged for disposal or treatment, or arranged with a transporter for disposal or treatment of hazardous substances; and persons who accept or accepted any hazardous substance for transport to disposal facilities and selected such facilities. Under CERCLA and other laws, PRPs may be liable for all funds expended by the United States government in responding to any release or threat of release at the Site, including planning, investigation, cleanup and enforcement activities associated with the Site.



In addition, PRPs may be required to pay damages for injury to natural resources or for their destruction or loss, together with the cost of assessing such damages.

Based on information received during the investigation of this Site, the EPA believes that your company, as an arranger, who by contract or agreement, arranged for the disposal, treatment or transportation of hazardous substances at the Site, may be a responsible party under Section 107 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9607(a). Before the United States Government undertakes further response actions, EPA requests that the PRPs voluntarily perform the work necessary to address any releases or threatened releases of hazardous substances from the Site. Information related to your company's potential liability is enclosed as Attachment A.

### **Background**

The Site includes the former Ward Transformer facility and surrounding properties and areas downstream from the facility including unnamed tributaries to Little Brier Creek, Little Brier Creek, Brier Creek Reservoir, Brier Creek, Lake Crabtree, and lower Crabtree Creek. The Ward Transformer facility was owned by Ward Transformer Company, Inc., and operated by Ward Transformer Sales and Service, Inc. (collectively "Ward") and was built on approximately 11 acres of previously undeveloped land in 1964. As part of its operations, Ward built, repaired, sold, and reconditioned transformers, switchgear, and other similar types of electrical equipment at the Site until 2006. As a result of Ward's operations, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) were released into the environment.

To date, EPA and the State of North Carolina have taken several response actions at the Site under the authority of the Superfund Program. Below is a brief description of the actions taken at the Site.

- EPA and the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources (NCDENR) began an investigation of the Site in 1978 as a result of Ward Transformer Company's involvement in the release of used oil containing PCBs along roadsides in North Carolina. During the time that the roadside spills were being investigated in 1978 and 1979, the EPA collected a number of samples at and downstream from the Ward Transformer facility. PCB contamination was found in the soil at the Ward Transformer facility, in the water and sediment of the facility's storm water lagoon, and in the water and sediments along the surface water pathway draining the facility.
- In 1993, the EPA conducted an emergency removal investigation at the Site and concluded that PCB contamination was not above emergency removal levels but did necessitate further remedial investigations of the Site.
- Between 1994 and 1997, NCDENR completed a Preliminary Assessment (PA), Site Inspection (SI), and Expanded Site Inspection (ESI) of the Site, the results of which confirmed the presence of PCBs in surface soils inside and outside fenced areas of the Ward Transformer facility and along a surface water pathway downstream of the facility.
- On July 3, 2002, the EPA sent Ward Transformer Company, Inc., an Information Request Letter pursuant to Section 104 of CERCLA seeking information as part of its investigation of the Site. On August 29, 2002, the EPA sent Ward Transformer Company, Inc., a General Notice Letter notifying Ward of its potential liability for the release or threatened release of hazardous substances at the Site.



- On September 5, 2002, the Site was proposed to be included on the National Priorities List (NPL). The Site was officially added to the NPL on April 30, 2003.
- In April 2003, the EPA began collecting samples as part of a Remedial Investigation (RI) of the Site. The RI Report, dated September 2004, confirmed PCB contamination of soil and sediments at the Ward facility property and PCB contamination of soil on several adjacent parcels. The RI Report also revealed PCB contamination of sediment samples and fish samples collected from the unnamed tributary to Little Brier Creek, Little Brier Creek, Brier Creek Reservoir, Brier Creek, and Lake Crabtree.
- In November 2003 and February 2004, the EPA sent several hundred companies Information Request Letters based on information received from Ward that the companies may have conducted business with, or sent hazardous materials to, the Site.
- As part of the RI, the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) issued an initial release of its Public Health Assessment for the Site which concluded that exposure of Site workers to high PCB concentrations in surface soils at the Ward facility could contribute to an increase theoretical risk of developing cancer. ATSDR further concluded that high PCB levels in soil from the Ward facility continued to be a source of PCB contamination to sediments and fish from the unnamed tributary to Little Brier Creek, the lower reaches of Little Brier Creek, Brier Creek Reservoir, Brier Creek, and Lake Crabtree, and that edible portions of fish from these waters have PCBs at levels high enough to increase the theoretical risk of adverse cancer and non-cancer health effects for people who eat these fish regularly. As a result, the State of North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services issued fish consumption advisories for these waters, and the EPA has posted signs with the advisories warning of dangers of eating fish from these areas.
- Based on the RI and a removal assessment conducted on August 9, 2004, the EPA determined that a current unacceptable risk existed at the Site which necessitated a time-critical removal action. On September 14, 2004, the EPA issued an Action Memorandum/Enforcement supporting the EPA's decision to implement a time-critical removal at the Site.
- On October 20, 2004, the EPA sent Notice/Demand letters and draft Administrative Orders on Consent (AOCs) to 43 Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs) notifying them of their potential liability, and providing them 60 days in which to enter into an agreement to conduct or finance a time-critical removal action at the Site, pursuant to the Action Memorandum, and to reimburse EPA for its costs incurred to date. On November 8, 2004, the EPA sent an additional PRP a Notice/Demand letter and draft AOCs. The PRPs included 39 top-volume generator PRPs as well as four owner/operator PRPs. On December 22, 2004, the negotiation period officially ended. EPA was unable to reach a settlement agreement with the PRPs for the performance of a time-critical removal action and the reimbursement of the EPA's costs.
- During the week of January 10, 2005, the EPA conducted a TSCA inspection at the Ward facility and discovered 38 transformer casings which, according to test results provided by the facility, contained earthen material contaminated with PCBs.

- Between February 2005 and September 2005, the EPA negotiated with a group of owner/operator PRPs and generator PRPs for the performance of a time-critical removal action at the Site and the reimbursement of the EPA's costs.
- On September 16, 2005, the EPA entered into a U.S. Department of Justice-approved Administrative Settlement Agreement and Order on Consent (Settlement Agreement) with nine PRPs (Removal PRP Group) for the performance of a time-critical removal action at the Ward Transformer facility and some immediately surrounding areas and the reimbursement of \$725,440.83 in past response costs.
- In October 2005, the EPA and the community developed a plan for additional sampling of certain areas downstream from the Ward Transformer facility and Reach A. "Reach A" is the section of the unnamed tributary to Little Brier Creek that starts at the Ward Transformer facility storm water treatment plant outfall and continues west-southwesterly for approximately 2,100 ft (0.4 mile) before entering the first culvert beneath the first I-540 crossing.
- In April 2007, the EPA approved of the Removal PRP Group's removal action plan which called for excavation, transportation, and disposal of contaminated material at an appropriate off-site land disposal facility as well as on-site treatment of contaminated material using a direct-fired Low Temperature Thermal Desorption (LTTD) process. In August 2008, the EPA agreed to a modification of the removal action plan proposed by the Removal PRP Group. The time-critical removal action work is still in progress.
- The EPA completed a Remedial Investigation (RI) Report for Operable Unit 1, Groundwater and Downstream Reaches, in July 2007, and a Feasibility Study (FS) Report for Operable Unit 1, Downstream Reaches, Final, in July 2007. Operable Unit 1 (OU1) includes the areas downgradient from the Ward Transformer facility as described in the Record of Decision (discussed below) including: Reaches B, C, and D; Brier Creek Reservoir; Brier Creek; Lake Crabtree; and Lower Crabtree Creek. "Reach B" is the section of the unnamed tributary to Little Brier Creek, downstream of the Ward Transformer facility, starting at the exit of the culvert on the west side of I-540, and continuing west-southwesterly for approximately 1,500 ft (0.3 mile) before entering a culvert beneath the Lumley Road crossing. "Reach C" is the section of the unnamed tributary to Little Brier Creek that starts from the terminus of Reach B and continues south-southwesterly for approximately 2,100 ft (0.4 mile) to its confluence with Little Brier Creek proper and a culvert beneath the second I-540 crossing. "Reach D" is the section of Little Brier Creek that starts at the exit of the culvert beneath the second I-540 crossing and continues southerly for approximately 4,200 ft (0.8 mile) to its mouth at Brier Creek Reservoir, located in the vicinity of the culverts beneath the Globe Road crossing.
- The EPA issued its Proposed Plan for OU1 on August 6, 2007. The Proposed Plan presented an evaluation of the remedial action alternatives that were developed as part of the July 2007 Feasibility Study (FS) Report for Operable Unit 1 (OU1). The notice of availability of the Proposed Plan and RI/FS Report was published in the Durham Herald on August 6, 2007, and the Raleigh News and Observer on August 8, 2007. A public comment period was held from August 6, 2007, to September 4, 2007. Based on a request for extension, the public comment period was extended to October 4, 2007. In addition, a public meeting was held on August 14, 2007, to present the proposed plan and answer questions about the Site and the remedial alternatives. The EPA's response to the comments received during this period is



included in the Responsiveness Summary, which is part of the Record of Decision (discussed below).

- The Record of Decision (ROD) for OU1, which documents the remedial action alternative selected by the EPA, was issued on September 29, 2008. The ROD is included as Attachment B.
- Further investigation of the nature and extent of the contamination for all media at or from Operable Unit 2 (OU2) as well as an evaluation of cleanup options that may be needed for OU2 is necessary. OU2 includes the Ward Transformer facility, certain parcels adjacent to the facility, and nearby drainage pathways upgradient of Reach B.

Based on an extensive review of records related to the release and/or disposal of hazardous substances at the Site, the EPA identified your company as one of the PRPs that contributed hazardous substances to the Site. Under the federal Superfund law, your company and the other PRPs at the Site are responsible for the costs of cleaning up the Site. The EPA has selected a cleanup approach (formally known as a remedial action) for the Site, which is described in the ROD issued by the EPA on September 29, 2008.

#### **Waiver of Special Notice and Negotiation Moratorium**

Section 122(e) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. §9622(e), provides that, when it would facilitate an agreement with PRPs for taking remedial actions and would expedite remedial action, the EPA may initiate special notice procedures for the RD/RA at the Site. When the EPA decides not to use special notice procedures, the EPA must notify the PRPs in writing of its decision and of the reasons why their use is inappropriate pursuant to Section 122(a) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. §9622(a). In this case, the EPA has determined that use of special notice procedures would not facilitate an agreement and would not expedite the necessary response action at the Site since many parties are already on notice of potential liability at the Site based on the contribution litigation in Carolina Power & Light v. 3M Company, 5:08-cv-00460-FL; and Consolidated Coal Company v. 3M Company, 5:08-cv-00463-FL, and since contaminated conditions at the Site warrant an accelerated clean up. Accordingly, the EPA will not invoke special notice procedures under section 122(e) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9622(e).

#### **Consent Decree for RD/RA for OU1**

Your company and the other PRPs are invited to participate in negotiations with the EPA in an effort to reach a settlement to conduct or finance the response action for OU1 and to reimburse the EPA for costs incurred to date. If your company provides the EPA with a "good faith offer" to conduct or finance the response action and reimburse the EPA for its costs by July 15, 2011, it will have until August 15, 2011, to negotiate a Consent Decree for Remedial Design/Remedial Action (RD/RA) for OU1 (Consent Decree). When approved by the EPA and the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), the Consent Decree will then be lodged in federal court.

If a "good faith offer" for RD/RA for OU1 is not received by July 15, 2011, or a Consent Decree cannot be agreed upon by August 15, 2011, the EPA may take appropriate action at the Site, which may include either of the following options: (1) The EPA may fund the remedial action and pursue a cost recovery claim under 107 of CERCLA against your company and/or the other PRPs; or (2) the EPA may issue a Unilateral Administrative Order (UAO) to your company and/or the other PRPs under Section 106(a) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9606, requiring your company or them to perform the work described in the

ROD. If the recipients of a UAO refuse to comply with the UAO, EPA may pursue civil litigation against the recipients to require compliance.

A proposed Consent Decree is enclosed as Attachment C to assist your company in developing a "good faith offer" for the RD/RA for OU1. A "good faith offer" to conduct or finance the remedial action is a written proposal that demonstrates your company's qualifications and willingness to perform such work and includes the following elements:

- A statement of your company's willingness and financial ability to implement the requirements of the ROD and proposed Consent Decree and that provides a sufficient basis for further negotiation;
- A demonstration of your company's technical capability to carry out the remedial action, including identification of the firm(s) that may actually conduct the work or a description of the process that will be undertaken to select the firm(s);
- A detailed statement of work or work plan identifying how your company intends to proceed with the remedial action;
- A statement of your company's willingness to reimburse the EPA for costs the EPA will incur in overseeing your company's implementation of the remedial action;
- A response to the proposed Consent Decree. If your company's offer contemplates modifications to the Consent Decree, please make revisions or edits to the Consent Decree and submit a version showing your company's proposed modifications to it;
- A list identifying each party on whose behalf the offer is being made, including name, address, and telephone number of each party;
- The name, address, and phone number of the party who will represent your company in negotiations; and
- A redline/strikeout version of the draft Consent Decree in Word Perfect or Microsoft Word.

#### **Demand for Reimbursement of Costs**

With this letter, the EPA demands that your company reimburse the EPA for its costs incurred to date, and encourages it to voluntarily negotiate a Consent Decree in which your company and other PRPs agree to perform the RD/RA for OU1.

In accordance with Section 104 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9604, the EPA has already taken certain response actions (detailed above) and incurred certain costs in response to conditions at the Site. The EPA is seeking to recover from your company and other PRPs at the Site its response costs at the Site through June 27, 2011, excluding costs paid or to be paid by the Removal PRP Group pursuant to the 2005 Settlement Agreement, and all the interest authorized to be recovered under Section 107(a) of CERCLA. Under Section 107(a) of CERCLA, the EPA hereby makes a demand for payment from your company and other PRPs for \$3,401,740.01 in settlement of its outstanding response costs from October 1, 1980, through June 29, 2011, plus all interest authorized to be recovered under Section 107(a). A summary of these costs is enclosed as Attachment D.



Pursuant to the Superfund Reforms announced on October 2, 1995, when the EPA enters into future RD/RA settlements, the EPA intends to compensate settlors for a portion of the shares specifically attributable to insolvent and defunct PRPs ("orphan share"), if any. The EPA believes that there may be PRPs at this Site who are insolvent or defunct. If your company, either individually or with other PRPs, enter into an RD/RA settlement with the EPA and provides sufficient information about the existence, liability, and relative shares of responsibility of insolvent and defunct PRPs, the EPA will analyze the information and determine whether to consider the shares of these parties in the amount of the EPA's past costs and future oversight costs to recover in such settlement.

#### **Financial Concerns/Ability to Pay Settlements**

The EPA is aware that the financial ability of some PRPs to contribute toward the payment of response costs at a site may be substantially limited. If your company believes, and can document, that it falls within that category, please contact Matthew Hicks, Associate Regional Counsel, at 404-562-9670 for information on "Ability to Pay Settlements." In response, your company will receive a package of information about the potential for such settlements and a form to fill out with information about its finances, and your company will be asked to submit financial records including business federal income tax returns. If the EPA concludes that your company has a legitimate inability to pay the full amount of the EPA's costs, the EPA may offer a schedule for payment over time or a reduction in the total amount demanded from your company.

Some or all of the costs associated with this notice may be covered by current or past insurance policies issued to your company. Most insurance policies will require that your company timely notify its carrier(s) of a claim against it. To evaluate whether your company should notify its insurance carrier(s) of this demand, you may wish to review current and past policies, beginning with the date of your company's first contact with the Ward Transformer Superfund Site, up to the present. Coverage depends on many factors, such as the language of the particular policy and state law.

In the event that your company files for protection in a bankruptcy court, it must include the EPA as creditor, because the EPA has a potential claim against it. The EPA reserves the right to file a proof of claim or application for Reimbursement of Administrative Expenses.

#### **PRP Steering Committee**

To assist PRPs in negotiating with the EPA concerning this matter, the EPA is enclosing with this letter as Attachment E a list of the names and addresses of other PRPs to whom it is sending this Notice.

The EPA recommends that all PRPs meet to select a steering committee responsible for representing the group's interests. The EPA recognizes that the allocation of responsibility among PRPs may be difficult. If PRPs are unable to reach consensus among themselves, we encourage the use of the services of a neutral third party to help allocate responsibility. Third parties are available to facilitate negotiations. At the PRPs' request, the EPA will provide a list of experienced third-party mediators, or help arrange for a mediator.

#### **Administrative Record**

In accordance with Section 113 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9613, the EPA has established an Administrative Record containing the documents that serve as the basis for the EPA's selection of the

appropriate response action for the Site. This Administrative Record is located at the North Regional Public Library in Raleigh, North Carolina, and is available to the public for inspection and comment. The Administrative Record is also available for inspection and comment at the Superfund Records Center, EPA Region 4, located at 61 Forsyth Street, SW, Atlanta, Georgia, 30303. Your company may wish to review the Administrative Record to assist it in responding to this letter, but your company's review should not delay such response beyond July 15, 2011, as provided above.

#### **PRP Response and EPA Contact Person**

Your company is encouraged to contact EPA by July 15, 2011, to indicate its willingness to participate in future negotiations concerning this Site. Your company may respond individually or through a steering committee if such a committee has been formed. If the EPA does not receive a timely response, the EPA will assume that your company does not wish to negotiate a resolution of its liabilities in connection with the Site, and that your company has declined any involvement in performing the response activities.

Your company's response to this General Notice Letter and the demand for costs included herein, including written proposals to perform the remedial action selected for OU1, should be sent to:

Matthew L. Hicks  
Associate Regional Counsel  
EPA Region 4  
OEA 13<sup>th</sup> Floor  
61 Forsyth Street, SW  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

The factual and legal discussions in this letter are intended solely to provide notice and information, and such discussions are not to be construed as a final the EPA position on any matter set forth herein. Due to the seriousness of the environmental and legal problems posed by the conditions at the Site, the EPA urges that your company give immediate attention and prompt response to this letter.

#### **Resources and Information for Small Businesses**

As you may be aware, on January 11, 2002, President Bush signed into law the Superfund Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. This Act contains several exemptions and defenses to CERCLA liability, which we suggest that all parties evaluate. You may obtain a copy of the law via the Internet at <http://www.epa.gov/swerosps/bf/sblbra.htm> and review EPA guidelines regarding these exemptions at <http://epa.gov/compliance/resources/policies/cleanup/superfund>.

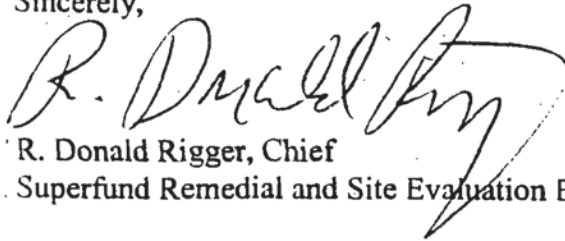
The EPA has created a number of helpful resources for small businesses. The EPA has established the National Compliance Assistance Clearinghouse as well as Compliance Assistance Centers which offer various forms of resources for small businesses. You may inquire about these resources at [www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov). In addition, the EPA Small Business Ombudsman may be contacted at [www.epa.gov/sbo](http://www.epa.gov/sbo).

If you have any questions regarding the technical aspects of this letter, please contact Luis Flores, Remedial Project Manager, at 404-562-8807. If you have an attorney handling your legal matters, please direct his or her questions to Matthew Hicks, Associate Regional Counsel, at 404-562-9670.



My staff and I look forward to working with you during the coming months.

Sincerely,



R. Donald Rigger, Chief  
Superfund Remedial and Site Evaluation Branch

Enclosures:

- A. Evidence of Potential Liability
- B. Record of Decision (see Appendix C to the Draft Consent Decree on attached compact disk)
- C. Draft Consent Decree (see attached compact disk)
- D. Cost Summary (see attached compact disk)
- E. List of PRPs

cc: Jack Butler, NCDENR (via U.S. mail w/o enclosures)

Attachment A      Evidence of Potential Liability



Attachment B      Record of Decision

(see Appendix C to the Draft Consent Decree on attached compact disk)

Attachment C      Draft Consent Decree

(see attached compact disk)



UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA  
WESTERN DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Plaintiff,

v.

SETTLING DEFENDANTS  
(Appendix A-1)

and

SETTLING FEDERAL AGENCIES  
(Appendix A-2)

Defendants.

Civil Action No.

**REMEDIAL DESIGN/REMEDIAL ACTION (RD/RA) CONSENT DECREE**

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## I. BACKGROUND

A. The United States of America (“United States”), on behalf of the Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”), filed a complaint in this matter pursuant to Sections 106 and 107 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (“CERCLA”), 42 U.S.C. §§ 9606, 9607.

B. The United States in its complaint seeks, *inter alia*: (1) reimbursement of costs incurred by EPA and the Department of Justice (“DOJ”) for response actions at the Ward Transformer Superfund Site in Raleigh, North Carolina, together with accrued interest; and (2) performance of response actions by the defendants at the Site consistent with the National Contingency Plan, 40 C.F.R. Part 300 (as amended) (“NCP”).

C. In accordance with the NCP and Section 121(f)(1)(F) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9621(f)(1)(F), EPA notified the State of North Carolina (the “State”) on December 23, 2008, of negotiations with potentially responsible parties (“PRPs”) regarding the implementation of the remedial design and remedial action for the Site, and EPA has provided the State with an opportunity to participate in such negotiations and be a party to this Consent Decree.

D. In accordance with Section 122(j)(1) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9622(j)(1), EPA notified the U.S. Department of Interior and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration on December 23, 2008, of negotiations with PRPs regarding the release of hazardous substances that may have resulted in injury to the natural resources under federal trusteeship and encouraged the trustees to participate in the negotiation of this Consent Decree.

E. The defendants that have entered into this Consent Decree (“Settling Defendants”) do not admit any liability to Plaintiffs arising out of the transactions or occurrences alleged in the complaint, nor do they acknowledge that the release or threatened release of hazardous substances at or from the Site constitutes an imminent and substantial endangerment to the public health or welfare or the environment. Settling Federal Agencies do not admit any liability arising out of the transactions or occurrences alleged in any counterclaim asserted by Settling Defendants.

F. Pursuant to Section 105 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9605, EPA placed the Site on the National Priorities List (“NPL”), set forth at 40 C.F.R. Part 300, Appendix B, by publication in the Federal Register on April 30, 2003, 68 Fed. Reg. 23077.

G. In response to a release or a substantial threat of a release of a hazardous substances at or from the Site, EPA commenced in April 2003, a Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (“RI/FS”) for the Site pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 300.430.

H. EPA completed a Revised Remedial Investigation and Risk Assessment Report in September 2004, and a Remedial Investigation Report for Operable Unit 1, Groundwater and Downstream Reaches, in July 2007, and EPA completed a Feasibility Study Report for Operable Unit 1, Downstream Reaches, Final, in July 2007.

I. Pursuant to Section 117 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9617, EPA published notice of the completion of the Feasibility Study and of the proposed plan for remedial action on August 6, 2007, and August 8, 2007, in two major local newspaper of general circulation. EPA provided an opportunity for written and oral comments from the public on the proposed plan for remedial action. A copy of the transcript of the public meeting is available to the public as part of the

administrative record upon which the Regional Administrator, EPA Region 4, based the selection of the response action.

J. The decision by EPA on the remedial action to be implemented for Operable Unit One ("OU1") at the Site is embodied in a final Record of Decision ("ROD"), executed on September 29, 2008, on which the State had a reasonable opportunity to review and comment. The ROD includes a responsiveness summary to the public comments. Notice of the final plan was published in accordance with Section 117(b) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9617(b).

K. Based on the information presently available to EPA, EPA believes that the Work will be properly and promptly conducted by Settling Defendants if conducted in accordance with the requirements of this Consent Decree and its appendices.

L. Solely for the purposes of Section 113(j) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9613(j), the Remedial Action set forth in the ROD and the Work to be performed by Settling Defendants shall constitute a response action taken or ordered by the President for which judicial review shall be limited to the administrative record.

M. The Parties recognize, and the Court by entering this Consent Decree finds, that this Consent Decree has been negotiated by the Parties in good faith and implementation of this Consent Decree will expedite the cleanup of the Site and will avoid prolonged and complicated litigation between the Parties, and that this Consent Decree is fair, reasonable, and in the public interest.

NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby Ordered, Adjudged, and Decreed:

## II. JURISDICTION

1. This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1345, and 42 U.S.C. §§ 9606, 9607, and 9613(b). This Court also has personal jurisdiction over Settling Defendants. Solely for the purposes of this Consent Decree and the underlying complaint, Settling Defendants waive all objections and defenses that they may have to jurisdiction of the Court or to venue in this District. Settling Defendants shall not challenge the terms of this Consent Decree or this Court's jurisdiction to enter and enforce this Consent Decree.

## III. PARTIES BOUND

2. This Consent Decree applies to and is binding upon the United States and upon Settling Defendants and their successors and assigns. Any change in ownership or corporate status of a Settling Defendant including, but not limited to, any transfer of assets or real or personal property, shall in no way alter such Settling Defendant's responsibilities under this Consent Decree.

3. Settling Defendants shall provide a copy of this Consent Decree to each contractor hired to perform the Work required by this Consent Decree and to each person representing any Settling Defendant with respect to the Site or the Work, and shall condition all contracts entered into hereunder upon performance of the Work in conformity with the terms of this Consent Decree. Settling Defendants or their contractors shall provide written notice of the Consent Decree to all subcontractors hired to perform any portion of the Work required by this Consent Decree. Settling Defendants shall nonetheless be responsible for ensuring that their contractors and subcontractors perform the Work in accordance with the terms of this Consent

Decree. With regard to the activities undertaken pursuant to this Consent Decree, each contractor and subcontractor shall be deemed to be in a contractual relationship with Settling Defendants within the meaning of Section 107(b)(3) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9607(b)(3).

#### IV. DEFINITIONS

4. Unless otherwise expressly provided in this Consent Decree, terms used in this Consent Decree that are defined in CERCLA or in regulations promulgated under CERCLA shall have the meaning assigned to them in CERCLA or in such regulations. Whenever terms listed below are used in this Consent Decree or in the appendices attached hereto and incorporated hereunder, the following definitions shall apply solely for purposes of this Consent Decree:

“CERCLA” shall mean the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, as amended, 42 U.S.C. §§ 9601-6975.

“Consent Decree” or “Decree” shall mean this Consent Decree and all appendices attached hereto (listed in Section XXVIII). In the event of conflict between this Consent Decree and any appendix, this Consent Decree shall control.

The term “day” shall mean a calendar day unless expressly stated to be a working day. The term “working day” shall mean a day other than a Saturday, Sunday, or federal holiday. In computing any period of time under this Consent Decree, where the last day would fall on a Saturday, Sunday, or federal holiday, the period shall run until the close of business of the next working day.

“Effective Date” shall be the date upon which this Consent Decree is entered by the Court as recorded on the Court docket, or, if the Court instead issues an order approving the Consent Decree, the date such order is recorded on the Court docket.

“EPA” shall mean the United States Environmental Protection Agency and its successor departments, agencies, or instrumentalities.

“Future Oversight Costs” shall mean that portion of Future Response Costs that EPA incurs in monitoring and supervising Settling Defendants’ performance of the Work to determine whether such performance is consistent with the requirements of this Consent Decree, including costs incurred in reviewing plans, reports, and other deliverables submitted pursuant to this Consent Decree, as well as costs incurred in overseeing implementation of the Work; however, Future Oversight Costs do not include, *inter alia*: the costs incurred by the United States pursuant to Sections VII (Remedy Review), IX (Access and Institutional Controls), XV (Emergency Response), and Paragraph 46 (Funding for Work Takeover), or the costs incurred by the United States in enforcing the terms of this Consent Decree, including all costs incurred in connection with Dispute Resolution pursuant to Section XIX (Dispute Resolution) and all litigation costs.

“Future Response Costs” shall mean all costs, including, but not limited to, direct and indirect costs, that the United States incurs in reviewing or developing plans, reports, and other deliverables submitted pursuant to this Consent Decree, in overseeing implementation of the Work, or otherwise implementing, overseeing, or enforcing this Consent Decree, including, but not limited to, payroll costs, contractor costs, travel costs, laboratory costs, the costs incurred pursuant to Sections VII (Remedy Review), IX (Access and Institutional Controls) (including, but not limited to, the cost of attorney time and any monies paid to secure access and/or to



secure, implement, monitor, maintain, or enforce Institutional Controls including, but not limited to, the amount of just compensation), XV (Emergency Response), Paragraph 46 (Funding for Work Takeover), and Section XXIX (Community Relations). Future Response Costs shall also include all Interim Response Costs, and all Interest on those Past Response Costs Settling Defendants and Settling Federal Agencies have agreed to pay under this Consent Decree that has accrued pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 9607(a) during the period from June 29, 2011, to the Effective Date.

“Institutional Controls” or “ICs” shall mean Proprietary Controls and state or local laws, regulations, ordinances, zoning restrictions, or other governmental controls or notices that: (a) limit land, water, and/or resource use to minimize the potential for human exposure to Waste Material at the Site; (b) limit land, water, and/or resource use to implement, ensure non-interference with, or ensure the protectiveness of the Remedial Action; and/or (c) provide information intended to modify or guide human behavior at the Site.

“Institutional Control Implementation and Assurance Plan” or “ICIAP” shall mean the plan for implementing, maintaining, monitoring, and reporting on the Institutional Controls set forth in the ROD, prepared in accordance with the statement of work (“SOW”).

“Interest” shall mean interest at the rate specified for interest on investments of the EPA Hazardous Substance Superfund established by 26 U.S.C. § 9507, compounded annually on October 1 of each year, in accordance with 42 U.S.C. § 9607(a). The applicable rate of interest shall be the rate in effect at the time the interest accrues. The rate of interest is subject to change on October 1 of each year.

“Interim Response Costs” shall mean all costs, including direct and indirect costs, (a) paid by the United States in connection with the Site between June 29, 2011, and the Effective Date, or (b) incurred prior to the Effective Date but paid after that date.

“National Contingency Plan” or “NCP” shall mean the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan promulgated pursuant to Section 105 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9605, codified at 40 C.F.R. Part 300, and any amendments thereto.

“NCDENR” shall mean the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources and any successor department or agencies of the State.

“Operable Unit One” or “OU1” shall mean the areas downgradient from the Ward Transformer facility described in the ROD.

“Operable Unit Two” or “OU2” shall mean the Ward Transformer facility, certain parcels adjacent to the facility, and nearby drainage pathways upgradient of Reach B.

“Operation and Maintenance” or “O&M” shall mean all activities required to maintain the effectiveness of the Remedial Action as required under the Operation and Maintenance Plan approved or developed by EPA pursuant to Section VI (Performance of the Work by Settling Defendants) and the SOW, and maintenance, monitoring, and enforcement of Institutional Controls as provided in the ICIAP.

“Paragraph” shall mean a portion of this Consent Decree identified by an Arabic numeral or an upper or lower case letter.

“Parties” shall mean the United States and Settling Defendants.

“Past Response Costs” shall mean all costs, including, but not limited to, direct and indirect costs, that the United States paid at or in connection with the Site through June 29, 2011, plus Interest on all such costs that has accrued pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 9607(a) through such date.

“Performance Standards” shall mean the cleanup standards and other measures of achievement of the goals of the Remedial Action, set forth in the ROD and the SOW and any modified standards established pursuant to this Consent Decree.

“Plaintiff” shall mean the United States.

“Proprietary Controls” shall mean easements or covenants running with the land that (a) limit land, water, or resource use and/or provide access rights and (b) are created pursuant to common law or statutory law by an instrument that is recorded by the owner in the appropriate land records office.

“RCRA” shall mean the Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended, 42 U.S.C. §§ 6901-6992 (also known as the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act).

“Reach A” shall mean the section of the unnamed tributary to Little Brier Creek that starts at the Ward Transformer facility storm water treatment plan outfall and continues west-southwesterly for approximately 2,100 ft (0.4 mile) before entering the first culvert beneath the first I-540 crossing.

“Reach B” shall mean the section of the unnamed tributary to Little Brier Creek, downstream of the Ward Transformer facility, starting at the exit of the culvert on the west side of I-540, and continuing west-southwesterly for approximately 1,500 ft (0.3 mile) before entering a culvert beneath the Lumley Road crossing.

“Reach C” shall mean the section of the unnamed tributary to Little Brier Creek that starts from the terminus of Reach B and continues south-southwesterly for approximately 2,100 ft (0.4 mile) to its confluence with Little Brier Creek proper and a culvert beneath the second I-540 crossing.

“Reach D” shall mean the section of Little Brier Creek that starts at the exit of the culvert beneath the second I-540 crossing and continues southerly for approximately 4,200 ft (0.8 mile) to its mouth at Brier Creek Reservoir, located in the vicinity of the culverts beneath the Globe Road crossing.

“Record of Decision” or “ROD” shall mean the EPA Record of Decision relating to OU1 at the Site signed on September 29, 2008, by the Superfund Director, EPA Region 4, or his/her delegate, and all attachments thereto. The ROD is attached as Appendix C.

“Remedial Action” shall mean all activities Settling Defendants are required to perform under the Consent Decree to implement the ROD, in accordance with the SOW, the final Remedial Design and Remedial Action Work Plans, and other plans approved by EPA, including implementation of Institutional Controls, until the Performance Standards are met, and excluding performance of the Remedial Design, O&M, and the activities required under Section XXV (Retention of Records).

“Remedial Action Work Plan” shall mean the document developed pursuant to Paragraph 11 (Remedial Action) and approved by EPA, and any modifications thereto.

“Remedial Design” shall mean those activities to be undertaken by Settling Defendants to develop the final plans and specifications for the Remedial Action pursuant to the Remedial Design Work Plan.

“Remedial Design Work Plan” shall mean the document developed pursuant to Paragraph 10 (Remedial Design) and approved by EPA, and any modifications thereto.

“Section” shall mean a portion of this Consent Decree identified by a Roman numeral.

“Settling Defendants” shall mean those Parties identified in Appendix A-1.

“Settling Federal Agencies” shall mean those Parties identified in Appendix A-2 and their successor departments, agencies, or instrumentalities.

“Site” shall mean the Ward Transformer Superfund Site located in Raleigh, Wake County, North Carolina. The Site includes the Ward Transformer facility, certain parcels adjacent to the facility, nearby drainage pathways, as well as the areas downgradient from the Ward Transformer facility as described in the ROD, and encompasses the areal extent of the contamination therefrom in the surface and subsurface sediments, soils, and waters, and is generally depicted on the map attached as Appendix D.

“State” shall mean the State of North Carolina.

“Statement of Work” or “SOW” shall mean the statement of work for implementation of the Remedial Design, Remedial Action, and O&M at the Site for OU1, as set forth in Appendix B to this Consent Decree and any modifications made in accordance with this Consent Decree.

“Supervising Contractor” shall mean the principal contractor retained by Settling Defendants to supervise and direct the implementation of the Work under this Consent Decree.

“Transfer” shall mean to sell, assign, convey, lease, mortgage, or grant a security interest in, or where used as a noun, a sale, assignment, conveyance, or other disposition of any interest by operation of law or otherwise.

“United States” shall mean the United States of America and each department, agency, and instrumentality of the United States, including EPA, the Settling Federal Agencies, and any federal natural resource trustee.

“Ward Transformer Superfund Site Special Account” shall mean the special account, within the EPA Hazardous Substances Superfund, established for the Site by EPA pursuant to Section 122(b)(3) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9622(b)(3), and the Administrative Settlement Agreement and Order on Consent.

“Waste Material” shall mean (1) any “hazardous substance” under Section 101(14) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9601(14); (2) any pollutant or contaminant under Section 101(33) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9601(33); (3) any “solid waste” under Section 1004(27) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6903(27); and (4) any “hazardous material” under Section 130A-310(2) of North Carolina General Statutes.

“Work” shall mean all activities and obligations Settling Defendants are required to perform under this Consent Decree, except the activities required under Section XXV (Retention of Records).



## V. GENERAL PROVISIONS

5. Objectives of the Parties. The objectives of the Parties in entering into this Consent Decree are to protect public health or welfare or the environment by the design and implementation of response actions at the Site by Settling Defendants, to pay response costs of the Plaintiff, and to resolve the claims of Plaintiff against Settling Defendants and the claims of the Settling Defendants that have been or could have been asserted against the United States with regard to this Site as provided in this Consent Decree..

6. Commitments by Settling Defendants and Settling Federal Agencies.

a. Settling Defendants shall finance and perform the Work in accordance with this Consent Decree, the ROD, the SOW, and all work plans and other plans, standards, specifications, and schedules set forth in this Consent Decree or developed by Settling Defendants and approved by EPA pursuant to this Consent Decree. Settling Defendants shall pay the United States for Past Response Costs and Future Response Costs as provided in this Consent Decree. Settling Federal Agencies shall pay EPA for Past Response Costs and Future Response Costs.

b. The obligations of Settling Defendants to finance and perform the Work, including obligations to pay amounts due under this Consent Decree, are joint and several. In the event of the insolvency of any Settling Defendant or the failure by any Settling Defendant to implement any requirement of this Consent Decree, the remaining Settling Defendants shall complete all such requirements.

7. Compliance With Applicable Law. All activities undertaken by Settling Defendants pursuant to this Consent Decree shall be performed in accordance with the requirements of all applicable federal and state laws and regulations. Settling Defendants must also comply with all applicable or relevant and appropriate requirements of all federal and state environmental laws as set forth in the ROD and the SOW. The activities conducted pursuant to this Consent Decree, if approved by EPA, shall be deemed to be consistent with the NCP.

8. Permits.

a. As provided in Section 121(e) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9621(e), and Section 300.400(e) of the NCP, no permit shall be required for any portion of the Work conducted entirely on-site (i.e., within the areal extent of contamination or in very close proximity to the contamination and necessary for implementation of the Work). Where any portion of the Work that is not on-site requires a federal or state permit or approval, Settling Defendants shall submit timely and complete applications and take all other actions necessary to obtain all such permits or approvals.

b. Settling Defendants may seek relief under the provisions of Section XVIII (Force Majeure) for any delay in the performance of the Work resulting from a failure to obtain, or a delay in obtaining, any permit or approval referenced in Paragraph 8.a and required for the Work, provided that they have submitted timely and complete applications and taken all other actions necessary to obtain all such permits or approvals.

c. This Consent Decree is not, and shall not be construed to be, a permit issued pursuant to any federal or state statute or regulation.

## VI. PERFORMANCE OF THE WORK BY SETTLING DEFENDANTS

### 9. Selection of Supervising Contractor.

a. All aspects of the Work to be performed by Settling Defendants pursuant to Sections VI (Performance of the Work by Settling Defendants), VII (Remedy Review), VIII (Quality Assurance, Sampling, and Data Analysis), IX (Access and Institutional Controls), and XV (Emergency Response) shall be under the direction and supervision of the Supervising Contractor, the selection of which shall be subject to disapproval by EPA. Within ten days after the lodging of this Consent Decree, Settling Defendants shall notify EPA in writing of the name, title, and qualifications of any contractor proposed to be the Supervising Contractor. With respect to any contractor proposed to be Supervising Contractor, Settling Defendants shall demonstrate that the proposed contractor has a quality assurance system that complies with ANSI/ASQC E4-1994, "Specifications and Guidelines for Quality Systems for Environmental Data Collection and Environmental Technology Programs" (American National Standard, January 5, 1995), by submitting a copy of the proposed contractor's Quality Management Plan ("QMP"). The QMP should be prepared in accordance with "EPA Requirements for Quality Management Plans (QA/R-2)" (EPA/240/B-01/002, March 2001, reissued May 2006) or equivalent documentation as determined by EPA. EPA will issue a notice of disapproval or an authorization to proceed regarding hiring of the proposed contractor. If at any time thereafter, Settling Defendants propose to change a Supervising Contractor, Settling Defendants shall give such notice to EPA and must obtain an authorization to proceed from EPA before the new Supervising Contractor performs, directs, or supervises any Work under this Consent Decree.

b. If EPA disapproves a proposed Supervising Contractor, EPA will notify Settling Defendants in writing. Settling Defendants shall submit to EPA a list of contractors, including the qualifications of each contractor, that would be acceptable to them within 30 days after receipt of EPA's disapproval of the contractor previously proposed. EPA will provide written notice of the names of any contractor(s) that it disapproves and an authorization to proceed with respect to any of the other contractors. Settling Defendants may select any contractor from that list that is not disapproved and shall notify EPA of the name of the contractor selected within 21 days after EPA's authorization to proceed.

c. If EPA fails to provide written notice of its authorization to proceed or disapproval as provided in this Paragraph and this failure prevents Settling Defendants from meeting one or more deadlines in a plan approved by EPA pursuant to this Consent Decree, Settling Defendants may seek relief under Section XVIII (Force Majeure).

### 10. Remedial Design.

a. Within 21 days after EPA's issuance of an authorization to proceed pursuant to Paragraph 9 (Selection of Supervising Contractor), Settling Defendants shall submit to EPA and the State a work plan for the design of the Remedial Action at the Site (Remedial Design Work Plan). The Remedial Design Work Plan shall provide for design of the remedy set forth in the ROD, in accordance with the SOW and for achievement of the Performance Standards and other requirements set forth in the ROD, this Consent Decree, and/or the SOW. The Remedial Design Work Plan shall include plans and schedules for implementation of all remedial design and pre-design tasks identified in the SOW. In addition, the Remedial Design Work Plan shall include a schedule for completion of the Remedial Action Work Plan. Within 21 days after EPA's issuance of an authorization to proceed under Paragraph 9, Settling

Defendants shall submit to EPA and the State a Health and Safety Plan for field design activities that conforms to the applicable Occupational Safety and Health Administration and EPA requirements including, but not limited to, 29 C.F.R. § 1910.120. The Remedial Design Work Plan and all other deliverables required as part of the Remedial Design, as set forth in the SOW, shall upon approval by EPA, be incorporated into and enforceable under this Consent Decree.

b. Upon approval of the Remedial Design Work Plan by EPA, after a reasonable opportunity for review and comment by the State, and submission of the Health and Safety Plan for all field activities to EPA and the State, Settling Defendants shall implement the Remedial Design Work Plan. Settling Defendants shall submit to EPA and the State all plans, reports, and other deliverables required under the approved Remedial Design Work Plan in accordance with the approved schedule for review and approval pursuant to Section XI (EPA Approval of Plans, Reports, and Other Deliverables). Unless otherwise directed by EPA, Settling Defendants shall not commence further Remedial Design activities at the Site prior to approval of the Remedial Design Work Plan.

11. Remedial Action.

a. Within 21 days after the approval of the final design submission, Settling Defendants shall submit to EPA and the State a work plan for the performance of the Remedial Action at the Site for OU1 (Remedial Action Work Plan). The Remedial Action Work Plan shall provide for construction and implementation of the remedy set forth in the ROD and achievement of the Performance Standards, in accordance with this Consent Decree, the ROD, the SOW, and the design plans and specifications developed in accordance with the Remedial Design Work Plan and approved by EPA. The Remedial Action Work Plan shall include a schedule for completion of the Remedial Action and a schedule for developing and submitting other required Remedial Action plans. At the same time as they submit the Remedial Action Work Plan, Settling Defendants shall submit to EPA and the State a Health and Safety Plan for field activities required by the Remedial Action Work Plan that conforms to the applicable Occupational Safety and Health Administration and EPA requirements including, but not limited to, 29 C.F.R. § 1910.120. The Remedial Action Work Plan and all other deliverables required as part of the Remedial Action shall, upon approval by EPA, be incorporated into and enforceable under this Consent Decree.

b. Upon approval of the Remedial Action Work Plan by EPA, after a reasonable opportunity for review and comment by the State, Settling Defendants shall implement the activities required under the Remedial Action Work Plan. Settling Defendants shall submit to EPA and the State all reports and other deliverables required under the approved Remedial Action Work Plan in accordance with the approved schedule for review and approval pursuant to Section XI (EPA Approval of Plans, Reports, and Other Deliverables). Unless otherwise directed by EPA, Settling Defendants shall not commence physical Remedial Action activities at OU1 prior to approval of the Remedial Action Work Plan.

12. Settling Defendants shall continue to implement the Remedial Action until the Performance Standards are achieved. Settling Defendants shall implement O&M for so long thereafter as is required by this Consent Decree.



13. Modification of SOW or Related Work Plans.

a. If EPA determines that it is necessary to modify the work specified in the SOW and/or in work plans developed pursuant to the SOW to achieve and maintain the Performance Standards or to carry out and maintain the effectiveness of the remedy set forth in the ROD, and such modification is consistent with the scope of the remedy set forth in the ROD, then EPA may issue such modification in writing and shall notify Settling Defendants of such modification. For the purposes of this Paragraph and Paragraphs 48 (Completion of the Remedial Action) and 49 (Completion of the Work) only, the “scope of the remedy set forth in the ROD” is to:

- (1) Continue or enhance existing North Carolina fish consumption advisories and signs.
- (2) Implement education and community outreach programs.
- (3) Conduct pre-excavation sampling of sediment and floodplain soil.
- (4) Conduct a pre-excavation endangered mussel evaluation study.
- (5) Excavate sediment/soil from Reaches B, C, D, and lower Brier Creek, as needed, and transport sediment/soil off-site for appropriate disposal.
- (6) Restore site and stream to pre-remediation conditions.
- (7) Implement Monitored Natural Recovery (MNR) in Brier Creek Reservoir, Lake Crabtree, and Lower Crabtree Creek.
- (8) Conduct periodic monitoring of sediment and aquatic biota.
- (9) Implement institutional controls.
- (10) Conduct Five-Year Reviews.

If Settling Defendants object to the modification they may, within 30 days after EPA’s notification, seek dispute resolution under Paragraph 69 (Record Review).

b. The SOW and/or related work plans shall be modified: (1) in accordance with the modification issued by EPA; or (2) if Settling Defendants invoke dispute resolution, in accordance with the final resolution of the dispute. The modification shall be incorporated into and enforceable under this Consent Decree, and Settling Defendants shall implement all work required by such modification. Settling Defendants shall incorporate the modification into the Remedial Design or Remedial Action Work Plan under Paragraph 10 (Remedial Design) or Paragraph 11 (Remedial Action), as appropriate.

c. Nothing in this Paragraph shall be construed to limit EPA’s authority to require performance of further response actions as otherwise provided in this Consent Decree.

14. Nothing in this Consent Decree, the SOW, or the Remedial Design or Remedial Action Work Plans constitutes a warranty or representation of any kind by Plaintiff that compliance with the work requirements set forth in the SOW and the Work Plans will achieve the Performance Standards.

15. Off-Site Shipment of Waste Material.

a. Settling Defendants may ship Waste Material from the Site to an off-site facility only if they verify, prior to any shipment, that the off-site facility is operating in compliance with the requirements of Section 121(d)(3) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9621(d)(3), and 40 C.F.R. § 300.440, by obtaining a determination from EPA that the proposed receiving facility is operating in compliance with 42 U.S.C. § 9621(d)(3) and 40 C.F.R. § 300.440.

b. Settling Defendants may ship Waste Material from the Site to an out-of-state waste management facility only if, prior to any shipment, they provide written notice to the appropriate state environmental official in the receiving facility's state and to the EPA Project Coordinator. This notice requirement shall not apply to any off-site shipments when the total quantity of all such shipments will not exceed ten cubic yards. The written notice shall include the following information, if available: (1) the name and location of the receiving facility; (2) the type and quantity of Waste Material to be shipped; (3) the schedule for the shipment; and (4) the method of transportation. Settling Defendants also shall notify the state environmental official referenced above and the EPA Project Coordinator of any major changes in the shipment plan, such as a decision to ship the Waste Material to a different out-of-state facility. Settling Defendants shall provide the written notice after the award of the contract for Remedial Action construction and before the Waste Material is shipped.

VII. REMEDY REVIEW

16. Periodic Review. Settling Defendants shall conduct any studies and investigations that EPA requests in order to permit EPA to conduct reviews of whether the Remedial Action is protective of human health and the environment at least every five years as required by Section 121(c) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9621(c), and any applicable regulations.

17. EPA Selection of Further Response Actions. If EPA determines, at any time, that the Remedial Action is not protective of human health and the environment, EPA may select further response actions for OU1 in accordance with the requirements of CERCLA and the NCP.

18. Opportunity To Comment. Settling Defendants, Settling Federal Agencies, and, if required by Sections 113(k)(2) or 117 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9613(k)(2) or 9617, the public, will be provided with an opportunity to comment on any further response actions proposed by EPA as a result of the review conducted pursuant to Section 121(c) of CERCLA and to submit written comments for the record during the comment period.

19. Settling Defendants' Obligation To Perform Further Response Actions. If EPA selects further response actions for the Site, EPA may require Settling Defendants to perform such further response actions. Settling Defendants may invoke the procedures set forth in Section XIX (Dispute Resolution) to dispute (a) EPA's determination that the Remedial Action is not protective of human health and the environment, or (b) EPA's selection of the further response actions. Disputes pertaining to whether the Remedial Action is protective or to EPA's selection of further response actions shall be resolved pursuant to Paragraph 69 (Record Review).

20. Submission of Plans. If Settling Defendants are required to perform further response actions pursuant to Paragraph 19, they shall submit a plan for such response action to EPA for approval in accordance with the procedures of Section VI (Performance of the Work by

Settling Defendants). Settling Defendants shall implement the approved plan in accordance with this Consent Decree.

#### VIII. QUALITY ASSURANCE, SAMPLING, AND DATA ANALYSIS

##### 21. Quality Assurance.

a. Settling Defendants shall use quality assurance, quality control, and chain of custody procedures for all treatability, design, compliance, and monitoring samples in accordance with “EPA Requirements for Quality Assurance Project Plans (QA/R5)” (EPA/240/B-01/003, March 2001, reissued May 2006), “Guidance for Quality Assurance Project Plans (QA/G-5)” (EPA/240/R-02/009, December 2002), and subsequent amendments to such guidelines upon notification by EPA to Settling Defendants of such amendment. Amended guidelines shall apply only to procedures conducted after such notification.

b. Prior to the commencement of any monitoring project under this Consent Decree, Settling Defendants shall submit to EPA for approval, after a reasonable opportunity for review and comment by the State, a Quality Assurance Project Plan (“QAPP”) that is consistent with the SOW, the NCP, and applicable guidance documents. If relevant to the proceeding, the Parties agree that validated sampling data generated in accordance with the QAPP(s) and reviewed and approved by EPA shall be admissible as evidence, without objection, in any proceeding under this Consent Decree. Settling Defendants shall ensure that EPA personnel and its authorized representatives are allowed access at reasonable times to all laboratories utilized by Settling Defendants in implementing this Consent Decree. In addition, Settling Defendants shall ensure that such laboratories shall analyze all samples submitted by EPA pursuant to the QAPP for quality assurance monitoring. Settling Defendants shall ensure that the laboratories they utilize for the analysis of samples taken pursuant to this Consent Decree perform all analyses according to accepted EPA methods. Accepted EPA methods consist of those methods that are documented in the “USEPA Contract Laboratory Program Statement of Work for Inorganic Analysis, ILM05.4,” and the “USEPA Contract Laboratory Program Statement of Work for Organic Analysis, SOM01.2,” and any amendments made thereto during the course of the implementation of this Decree; however, upon approval by EPA, after opportunity for review and comment by the State, Settling Defendants may use other analytical methods that are as stringent as or more stringent than the CLP-approved methods. Settling Defendants shall ensure that all laboratories they use for analysis of samples taken pursuant to this Consent Decree participate in an EPA or EPA-equivalent quality assurance/quality control (“QA/QC”) program. Settling Defendants shall use only laboratories that have a documented Quality System that complies with ANSI/ASQC E4-1994, “Specifications and Guidelines for Quality Systems for Environmental Data Collection and Environmental Technology Programs” (American National Standard, January 5, 1995), and “EPA Requirements for Quality Management Plans (QA/R-2)” (EPA/240/B-01/002, March 2001, reissued May 2006) or equivalent documentation as determined by EPA. EPA may consider laboratories accredited under the National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (“NELAP”) as meeting the Quality System requirements. Settling Defendants shall ensure that all field methodologies utilized in collecting samples for subsequent analysis pursuant to this Consent Decree are conducted in accordance with the procedures set forth in the QAPP approved by EPA.

22. Upon request, Settling Defendants shall allow split or duplicate samples to be taken by EPA or its authorized representatives. Settling Defendants shall notify EPA not less

than 14 days in advance of any sample collection activity unless shorter notice is agreed to by EPA. In addition, EPA shall have the right to take any additional samples that EPA deems necessary. Upon request, EPA shall allow Settling Defendants to take split or duplicate samples of any samples it takes as part of Plaintiff's oversight of Settling Defendants' implementation of the Work.

23. Settling Defendants shall submit to EPA copies (which may be via electronic media, as agreed with EPA) of the results of all sampling and/or tests or other data obtained or generated by or on behalf of Settling Defendants with respect to the Site and/or the implementation of this Consent Decree unless EPA agrees otherwise.

24. Notwithstanding any provision of this Consent Decree, the United States retains all of its information gathering and inspection authorities and rights, including enforcement actions related thereto, under CERCLA, RCRA, and any other applicable statutes or regulations.

#### IX. ACCESS AND INSTITUTIONAL CONTROLS

25. If the Site, or any other real property where access or land/water use restrictions are needed, is owned or controlled by any of Settling Defendants:

a. such Settling Defendants shall, commencing on the date of lodging of the Consent Decree, provide the United States and the other Settling Defendants, and their representatives, contractors, and subcontractors, with access at all reasonable times to the Site, or such other real property, to conduct any activity regarding the Consent Decree including, but not limited to, the following activities:

- (1) Monitoring the Work;
- (2) Verifying any data or information submitted to the United States;
- (3) Conducting investigations regarding contamination at or near the Site;
- (4) Obtaining samples;
- (5) Assessing the need for, planning, or implementing additional response actions at or near the Site;
- (6) Assessing implementation of quality assurance and quality control practices as defined in the approved CQAP;
- (7) Implementing the Work pursuant to the conditions set forth in Paragraph 87 (Work Takeover);
- (8) Inspecting and copying records, operating logs, contracts, or other documents maintained or generated by Settling Defendants or their agents, consistent with Section XXIV (Access to Information);
- (9) Assessing Settling Defendants' compliance with the Consent Decree;
- (10) Determining whether the Site or other real property is being used in a manner that is prohibited or restricted, or that may need to be prohibited or restricted under the Consent Decree;



(11) Implementing, monitoring, maintaining, reporting on, and enforcing any Institutional Controls and the requirements of the ICIAP; and

(12) Conduct community relations activities.

b. commencing on the date of lodging of the Consent Decree, such Settling Defendants shall not use the Site, or such other real property, in any manner that EPA determines will pose an unacceptable risk to human health or to the environment due to exposure to Waste Material or interfere with or adversely affect the implementation, integrity, or protectiveness of the Remedial Action.

c. such Settling Defendants shall:

(1) execute and record in the appropriate land records office Proprietary Controls that: (i) grant a right of access to conduct any activity regarding the Consent Decree including, but not limited to, those activities listed in Paragraph 25.a; and (ii) grant the right to enforce the land/water use restrictions set forth in Paragraph 25.b, including, but not limited to, the specific restrictions listed therein and any land/water use restrictions listed in the ICIAP, as further specified in this Paragraph 25.c. The Proprietary Controls shall be granted to one or more of the following persons, as determined by EPA: (i) the United States, on behalf of EPA, and its representatives; (ii) the State and its representatives; (iii) the other Settling Defendants and their representatives; and/or (iv) other appropriate grantees. The Proprietary Controls, other than those granted to the United States, shall include a designation that EPA (and/or the State as appropriate) is a “third-party beneficiary,” allowing EPA to maintain the right to enforce the Proprietary Controls without acquiring an interest in real property. If any Proprietary Controls are granted to any Settling Defendants pursuant to this Paragraph 25.c(1), then such Settling Defendants shall monitor, maintain, report on, and enforce such Proprietary Controls.

(2) In accordance with the schedule set forth in the ICIAP, submit to EPA for review and approval regarding such real property: (i) draft Proprietary Controls that are enforceable under state law; and (ii) a current title insurance commitment or other evidence of title acceptable to EPA, which shows title to the land affected by the Proprietary Controls to be free and clear of all prior liens and encumbrances (except when EPA waives the release or subordination of such prior liens or encumbrances or when, despite best efforts, Settling Defendants are unable to obtain release or subordination of such prior liens or encumbrances).

(3) Within 15 days of EPA’s approval and acceptance of the Proprietary Controls and the title evidence, update the title search and, if it is determined that nothing has occurred since the effective date of the commitment, or other title evidence, to affect the title adversely, record the Proprietary Controls with the appropriate land records office. Within 30 days after recording the Proprietary Controls, such Settling Defendants shall provide EPA with a final title insurance policy, or other final evidence of title acceptable to EPA, and a certified copy of the original recorded Proprietary Controls showing the clerk’s recording stamps. If the Proprietary Controls are to be conveyed to the United States, the Proprietary Controls and title evidence (including final title evidence) shall be prepared in accordance with the U.S. Department

of Justice Title Standards 2001, and approval of the sufficiency of title shall be obtained as required by 40 U.S.C. § 3111.

26. If the Site, or any other real property where access and/or land/water use restrictions are needed, is owned or controlled by persons other than any Settling Defendant:

a. Settling Defendants shall use best efforts to secure from such persons:

(1) an agreement to provide access thereto for the United States and Settling Defendants, and their representatives, contractors, and subcontractors, to conduct any activity regarding the Consent Decree including, but not limited to, the activities listed in Paragraph 25.a;

(2) an agreement, enforceable by Settling Defendants and the United States, to refrain from using the Site, or such other real property, in any manner that EPA determines will pose an unacceptable risk to human health or to the environment due to exposure to Waste Material or interfere with or adversely affect the implementation, integrity, or protectiveness of the Remedial Action. The agreement shall include, but not be limited to, the land/water use restrictions listed in Paragraph 25.b; and

(3) the execution and recordation in the appropriate land records office of Proprietary Controls, that (i) grant a right of access to conduct any activity regarding the Consent Decree including, but not limited to, those activities listed in Paragraph 25.a, and (ii) grant the right to enforce the land/water use restrictions set forth in Paragraph 25.b, including, but not limited to, the specific restrictions listed therein and any land/water use restrictions listed in the ICIAP. The Proprietary Controls shall be granted to one or more of the following persons, as determined by EPA: (i) the United States, on behalf of EPA, and its representatives, (ii) the State and its representatives, (iii) Settling Defendants and their representatives, and/or (iv) other appropriate grantees. The Proprietary Controls, other than those granted to the United States, shall include a designation that EPA (and/or the State as appropriate) is a third party beneficiary, allowing EPA to maintain the right to enforce the Proprietary Controls without acquiring an interest in real property. If any Proprietary Controls are granted to any Settling Defendants pursuant to this Paragraph 26.a(3), then such Settling Defendants shall monitor, maintain, report on, and enforce such Proprietary Controls.

b. In accordance with the schedule set forth in the ICIAP, Settling Defendants shall submit to EPA for review and approval regarding such property: (i) draft Proprietary Controls that are enforceable under state law; and (ii) a current title insurance commitment, or other evidence of title acceptable to EPA, which shows title to the land affected by the Proprietary Controls to be free and clear of all prior liens and encumbrances (except when EPA waives the release or subordination of such prior liens or encumbrances or when, despite best efforts, Settling Defendants are unable to obtain release or subordination of such prior liens or encumbrances).

c. Within 15 days of EPA's approval and acceptance of the Proprietary Controls and the title evidence, Settling Defendants shall update the title search and, if it is determined that nothing has occurred since the effective date of the commitment, or other title evidence, to affect the title adversely, the Proprietary Controls shall be recorded with the

appropriate land records office. Within 30 days after the recording of the Proprietary Controls, Settling Defendants shall provide EPA with a final title insurance policy, or other final evidence of title acceptable to EPA, and a certified copy of the original recorded Proprietary Controls showing the clerk's recording stamps. If the Proprietary Controls is to be conveyed to the United States, the Proprietary Controls and title evidence (including final title evidence) shall be prepared in accordance with the U.S. Department of Justice Title Standards 2001, and approval of the sufficiency of title must be obtained as required by 40 U.S.C. § 3111.

27. For purposes of Paragraphs 25 and 26, "best efforts" includes the payment of reasonable sums of money to obtain access, an agreement to restrict land/water use, a Proprietary Controls, and/or an agreement to release or subordinate a prior lien or encumbrance. If, within 30 days after the Effective Date, Settling Defendants have not: (a) obtained agreements to provide access, as required by Paragraph 26.a(1), Settling Defendants shall promptly notify the United States in writing, and shall include in that notification a summary of the steps that Settling Defendants have taken to attempt to comply with Paragraph 26. If, in accordance with the schedule set forth in the SOW, Settling Defendants have not: (a) obtained agreements to restrict land/water use or record Proprietary Controls as required by Paragraphs 26.a(2), or 26.a(3); or (b) obtained, pursuant to Paragraph 25.c(2) or 26.b, agreements from the holders of prior liens or encumbrances to release or subordinate such liens or encumbrances to the Proprietary Controls, Settling Defendants shall promptly notify the United States in writing, and shall include in that notification a summary of the steps that Settling Defendants have taken to attempt to comply with Paragraph 25 or 26. The United States may, as it deems appropriate, assist Settling Defendants in obtaining access, agreements to restrict land/water use, Proprietary Controls, or the release or subordination of a prior lien or encumbrance. Settling Defendants shall reimburse the United States under Section XVI (Payments for Response Costs) for all costs incurred, direct or indirect, by the United States in obtaining such access, agreements to restrict land/water use, Proprietary Controls, and/or the release/subordination of prior liens or encumbrances including, but not limited to, the cost of attorney time and the amount of monetary consideration paid or just compensation.

28. If EPA determines that Institutional Controls in the form of state or local laws, regulations, ordinances, zoning restrictions, or other governmental controls are needed, Settling Defendants shall cooperate with EPA's and the State's efforts to secure and ensure compliance with such governmental controls.

29. Notwithstanding any provision of the Consent Decree, the United States and the State retain all of their access authorities and rights, as well as all of their rights to require Institutional Controls, including enforcement authorities related thereto, under CERCLA, RCRA, and any other applicable statute or regulations.

#### X. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

30. In addition to any other requirement of this Consent Decree, Settling Defendants shall submit to EPA copies by electronic mail of written monthly progress reports that: (a) describe the actions that have been taken toward achieving compliance with this Consent Decree during the previous month; (b) include a summary of all results of sampling and tests and all other data received or generated by Settling Defendants or their contractors or agents in the previous month; (c) identify all plans, reports, and other deliverables required by this Consent Decree completed and submitted during the previous month; (d) describe all actions, including,

but not limited to, data collection and implementation of work plans, that are scheduled for the next six weeks and provide other information relating to the progress of construction, including, but not limited to, critical path diagrams, Gantt charts and Pert charts; (e) include information regarding percentage of completion, unresolved delays encountered or anticipated that may affect the future schedule for implementation of the Work, and a description of efforts made to mitigate those delays or anticipated delays; (f) include any modifications to the work plans or other schedules that Settling Defendants have proposed to EPA or that have been approved by EPA; and (g) describe all activities undertaken in support of the Community Relations Plan during the previous month and those to be undertaken in the next six weeks. Settling Defendants shall submit these progress reports to EPA and the State by the tenth day of every month following the lodging of this Consent Decree until EPA notifies Settling Defendants pursuant to Paragraph 49.b of Section XIV (Certification of Completion). If requested by EPA, Settling Defendants shall also provide briefings for EPA to discuss the progress of the Work.

31. Settling Defendants shall notify EPA of any change in the schedule described in the monthly progress report for the performance of any activity, including, but not limited to, data collection and implementation of work plans, no later than seven days prior to the performance of the activity.

32. Upon the occurrence of any event during performance of the Work that Settling Defendants are required to report pursuant to Section 103 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9603, or Section 304 of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-know Act (“EPCRA”), 42 U.S.C. § 11004, Settling Defendants shall within 24 hours of the onset of such event orally notify the EPA Project Coordinator or the Alternate EPA Project Coordinator (in the event of the unavailability of the EPA Project Coordinator), or, in the event that neither the EPA Project Coordinator nor Alternate EPA Project Coordinator is available, the Emergency Response Section, Region 4, United States Environmental Protection Agency. These reporting requirements are in addition to the reporting required by CERCLA Section 103 or EPCRA Section 304.

33. Within 20 days after the onset of such an event, Settling Defendants shall furnish to EPA a written report, signed by Settling Defendants’ Project Coordinator, setting forth the events that occurred and the measures taken, and to be taken, in response thereto. Within 30 days after the conclusion of such an event, Settling Defendants shall submit a report setting forth all actions taken in response thereto.

34. Settling Defendants shall submit 5 written copies of all plans, reports, data, and other deliverables required by the SOW, the Remedial Design Work Plan, the Remedial Action Work Plan, or any other approved plans to EPA in accordance with the schedules set forth in such plans. Settling Defendants shall simultaneously submit 2 written copies of all such plans, reports, data, and other deliverables to the State. Upon request by EPA, Settling Defendants shall submit in electronic form all or any portion of any deliverables Settling Defendants are required to submit pursuant to the provisions of this Consent Decree.

35. All deliverables submitted by Settling Defendants to EPA that purport to document Settling Defendants’ compliance with the terms of this Consent Decree shall be signed by an authorized representative of Settling Defendants.



## XI. EPA APPROVAL OF PLANS, REPORTS, AND OTHER DELIVERABLES

### 36. Initial Submissions.

a. After review of any plan, report, or other deliverable that is required to be submitted for approval pursuant to this Consent Decree, EPA, after reasonable opportunity for review and comment by the State, shall: (1) approve, in whole or in part, the submission; (2) approve the submission upon specified conditions; (3) disapprove, in whole or in part, the submission; or (4) any combination of the foregoing.

b. EPA also may modify the initial submission to cure deficiencies in the submission if: (1) EPA determines that disapproving the submission and awaiting a resubmission would cause substantial disruption to the Work; or (2) previous submission(s) have been disapproved due to material defects and the deficiencies in the initial submission under consideration indicate a bad faith lack of effort to submit an acceptable plan, report, or deliverable.

37. Resubmissions. Upon receipt of a notice of disapproval under Paragraph 36.a(3) or (4), or if required by a notice of approval upon specified conditions under Paragraph 36.a(2), Settling Defendants shall, within 15 days or such longer time as specified by EPA in such notice, correct the deficiencies and resubmit the plan, report, or other deliverable for approval. After review of the resubmitted plan, report, or other deliverable, EPA may: (a) approve, in whole or in part, the resubmission; (b) approve the resubmission upon specified conditions; (c) modify the resubmission; (d) disapprove, in whole or in part, the resubmission, requiring Settling Defendants to correct the deficiencies; or (e) any combination of the foregoing.

38. Material Defects. If an initially submitted or resubmitted plan, report, or other deliverable contains a material defect, and the plan, report, or other deliverable is disapproved or modified by EPA under Paragraph 36.b(2) or 37 due to such material defect, then the material defect shall constitute a lack of compliance for purposes of Paragraph 72. The provisions of Section XIX (Dispute Resolution) and Section XX (Stipulated Penalties) shall govern the accrual and payment of any stipulated penalties regarding Settling Defendants' submissions under this Section.

39. Implementation. Upon approval, approval upon conditions, or modification by EPA under Paragraph 36 (Initiation Submissions) or Paragraph 37 (Resubmissions), of any plan, report, or other deliverable, or any portion thereof: (a) such plan, report, or other deliverable, or portion thereof, shall be incorporated into and enforceable under this Consent Decree; and (b) Settling Defendants shall take any action required by such plan, report, or other deliverable, or portion thereof, subject only to their right to invoke the Dispute Resolution procedures set forth in Section XIX (Dispute Resolution) with respect to the modifications or conditions made by EPA. The implementation of any non-deficient portion of a plan, report, or other deliverable submitted or resubmitted under Paragraph 36 or 37 shall not relieve Settling Defendants of any liability for stipulated penalties under Section XX (Stipulated Penalties).

## XII. PROJECT COORDINATORS

40. Within 10 days after lodging this Consent Decree, Settling Defendants and EPA will notify each other, in writing, of the name, address, and telephone number of their respective designated Project Coordinators and Alternate Project Coordinators. If a Project Coordinator or Alternate Project Coordinator initially designated is changed, the identity of the successor will be

given to the other Parties at least five working days before the change occurs, unless impracticable, but in no event later than the actual day the change is made. Settling Defendants' Project Coordinator shall be subject to disapproval by EPA and shall have the technical expertise sufficient to adequately oversee all aspects of the Work. Settling Defendants' Project Coordinator shall not be an attorney for any Settling Defendant in this matter. He or she may assign other representatives, including other contractors, to serve as a Site representative for oversight of performance of daily operations during remedial activities.

41. Plaintiff may designate other representatives, including, but not limited to, EPA employees, and federal contractors and consultants, to observe and monitor the progress of any activity undertaken pursuant to this Consent Decree. EPA's Project Coordinator and Alternate Project Coordinator shall have the authority lawfully vested in a Remedial Project Manager ("RPM") and an On-Scene Coordinator ("OSC") by the NCP, 40 C.F.R. Part 300. EPA's Project Coordinator or Alternate Project Coordinator shall have authority, consistent with the NCP, to halt any Work required by this Consent Decree and to take any necessary response action when he or she determines that conditions at the Site constitute an emergency situation or may present an immediate threat to public health or welfare or the environment due to release or threatened release of Waste Material.

### XIII. PERFORMANCE GUARANTEE

42. In order to ensure the full and final completion of the Work, Settling Defendants shall establish and maintain a performance guarantee, initially in the amount of \$6,280,000, for the benefit of EPA (hereinafter "Estimated Cost of the Work"). The performance guarantee, which must be satisfactory in form and substance to EPA, shall be in the form of one or more of the following mechanisms (provided that, if Settling Defendants intend to use multiple mechanisms, such multiple mechanisms shall be limited to surety bonds guaranteeing payment, letters of credit, trust funds, and insurance policies):

a. A surety bond unconditionally guaranteeing payment and/or performance of the Work that is issued by a surety company among those listed as acceptable sureties on federal bonds as set forth in Circular 570 of the U.S. Department of the Treasury;

b. One or more irrevocable letters of credit, payable to or at the direction of EPA, that is issued by one or more financial institution(s) (1) that has the authority to issue letters of credit and (2) whose letter-of-credit operations are regulated and examined by a federal or state agency;

c. A trust fund established for the benefit of EPA that is administered by a trustee (1) that has the authority to act as a trustee and (2) whose trust operations are regulated and examined by a federal or state agency;

d. A policy of insurance that (1) provides EPA with acceptable rights as a beneficiary thereof; and (2) is issued by an insurance carrier (i) that has the authority to issue insurance policies in the applicable jurisdiction(s) and (ii) whose insurance operations are regulated and examined by a federal or state agency;

e. A demonstration by one or more Settling Defendants that each such Settling Defendant meets the financial test criteria of 40 C.F.R. § 264.143(f) with respect to the Estimated Cost of the Work (plus the amount(s) of any other federal or any state environmental

obligations financially assured through the use of a financial test or guarantee), provided that all other requirements of 40 C.F.R. § 264.143(f) are met to EPA's satisfaction; or

f. A written guarantee to fund or perform the Work executed in favor of EPA by one or more of the following: (1) a direct or indirect parent company of a Settling Defendant, or (2) a company that has a "substantial business relationship" (as defined in 40 C.F.R. § 264.141(h)) with at least one Settling Defendant; provided, however, that any company providing such a guarantee must demonstrate to the satisfaction of EPA that it satisfies the financial test and reporting requirements for owners and operators set forth in subparagraphs (1) through (8) of 40 C.F.R. § 264.143(f) with respect to the Estimated Cost of the Work (plus the amount(s) of any other federal or any state environmental obligations financially assured through the use of a financial test or guarantee) that it proposes to guarantee hereunder.

43. Settling Defendants have selected, and EPA has found satisfactory, as an initial performance guarantee **[insert type(s)]** pursuant to Paragraph 42.\_\_\_\_, in the form attached hereto as Appendix E. Within ten days after the Effective Date, Settling Defendants shall execute or otherwise finalize all instruments or other documents required in order to make the selected performance guarantee(s) legally binding in a form substantially identical to the documents attached hereto as Appendix E, and such performance guarantee(s) shall thereupon be fully effective. Within 30 days after the Effective Date, Settling Defendants shall submit copies of all executed and/or otherwise finalized instruments or other documents required in order to make the selected performance guarantee(s) legally binding to the EPA Regional Financial Management Officer in accordance with Section XXVI (Notices and Submissions), with a copy to EPA Regional Financial Management Officer and to the United States and EPA as specified in Section XXVI.

44. If, at any time after the Effective Date and before issuance of the Certification of Completion of the Work pursuant to Paragraph 49, Settling Defendants provide a performance guarantee for completion of the Work by means of a demonstration or guarantee pursuant to Paragraph 42.e or 42.f, the relevant Settling Defendants shall also comply with the other relevant requirements of 40 C.F.R. § 264.143(f) relating to these mechanisms unless otherwise provided in this Consent Decree, including but not limited to: (a) the initial submission of required financial reports and statements from the relevant entity's chief financial officer ("CFO") and independent certified public accountant ("CPA"), in the form prescribed by EPA in its financial test sample CFO letters and CPA reports available at: <http://www.epa.gov/compliance/resources/policies/cleanup/superfund/fa-test-samples.pdf>; (b) the annual resubmission of such reports and statements within 90 days after the close of each such entity's fiscal year; and (c) the prompt notification of EPA after each such entity determines that it no longer satisfies the financial test requirements set forth at 40 C.F.R. § 264.143(f)(1) and in any event within 90 days after the close of any fiscal year in which such entity no longer satisfies such financial test requirements. For purposes of the performance guarantee mechanisms specified in this Section XIII, references in 40 C.F.R. Part 264, Subpart H, to "closure," "post-closure," and "plugging and abandonment" shall be deemed to include the Work; the terms "current closure cost estimate," "current post-closure cost estimate," and "current plugging and abandonment cost estimate" shall be deemed to include the Estimated Cost of the Work; the terms "owner" and "operator" shall be deemed to refer to each Settling

Defendant making a demonstration under Paragraph 42.e; and the terms “facility” and “hazardous waste facility” shall be deemed to include the Site.

45. In the event that EPA determines at any time that a performance guarantee provided by any Settling Defendant pursuant to this Section is inadequate or otherwise no longer satisfies the requirements set forth in this Section, whether due to an increase in the estimated cost of completing the Work or for any other reason, or in the event that any Settling Defendant becomes aware of information indicating that a performance guarantee provided pursuant to this Section is inadequate or otherwise no longer satisfies the requirements set forth in this Section, whether due to an increase in the estimated cost of completing the Work or for any other reason, Settling Defendants, within 30 days after receipt of notice of EPA’s determination or, as the case may be, within 30 days after any Settling Defendant becoming aware of such information, shall obtain and present to EPA for approval a proposal for a revised or alternative form of performance guarantee listed in Paragraph 42 that satisfies all requirements set forth in this Section XIII; provided, however, that if any Settling Defendant cannot obtain such revised or alternative form of performance guarantee within such 30-day period, and provided further that the Settling Defendant shall have commenced to obtain such revised or alternative form of performance guarantee within such 30-day period, and thereafter diligently proceeds to obtain the same, EPA shall extend such period for such time as is reasonably necessary for the Settling Defendant in the exercise of due diligence to obtain such revised or alternative form of performance guarantee, such additional period not to exceed 30 days. In seeking approval for a revised or alternative form of performance guarantee, Settling Defendants shall follow the procedures set forth in Paragraph 47.b(2). Settling Defendants’ inability to post a performance guarantee for completion of the Work shall in no way excuse performance of any other requirements of this Consent Decree, including, without limitation, the obligation of Settling Defendants to complete the Work in strict accordance with the terms of this Consent Decree.

46. Funding for Work Takeover. The commencement of any Work Takeover pursuant to Paragraph 87 shall trigger EPA’s right to receive the benefit of any performance guarantee(s) provided pursuant to Paragraphs 42.a, 42.b, 42.c, 42.d, or 42.f, and at such time EPA shall have immediate access to resources guaranteed under any such performance guarantee(s), whether in cash or in kind, as needed to continue and complete the Work assumed by EPA under the Work Takeover. Upon the commencement of any Work Takeover, if (a) for any reason EPA is unable to promptly secure the resources guaranteed under any such performance guarantee(s), whether in cash or in kind, necessary to continue and complete the Work assumed by EPA under the Work Takeover, or (b) in the event that the performance guarantee involves a demonstration of satisfaction of the financial test criteria pursuant to Paragraph 42.e or Paragraph 42.f(2), Settling Defendants (or in the case of Paragraph 42.f(2), the guarantor) shall immediately upon written demand from EPA deposit into a special account within the EPA Hazardous Substance Superfund or such other account as EPA may specify, in immediately available funds and without setoff, counterclaim, or condition of any kind, a cash amount up to but not exceeding the estimated cost of completing the Work as of such date, as determined by EPA. In addition, if at any time EPA is notified by the issuer of a performance guarantee that such issuer intends to cancel the performance guarantee mechanism it has issued, then, unless Settling Defendants provide a substitute performance guarantee mechanism in accordance with this Section XIII no later than 30 days prior to the impending cancellation date, EPA shall be entitled (as of and after the date that is 30 days prior to the impending cancellation) to draw fully on the funds guaranteed under the then-existing performance guarantee. All EPA



Work Takeover costs not reimbursed under this Paragraph shall be reimbursed under Section XVI (Payments for Response Costs).

47. Modification of Amount and/or Form of Performance Guarantee.

a. Reduction of Amount of Performance Guarantee. If Settling Defendants believe that the estimated cost of completing the Work has diminished below the amount set forth in Paragraph 42, Settling Defendants may, on any anniversary of the Effective Date, or at any other time agreed to by the Parties, petition EPA in writing to request a reduction in the amount of the performance guarantee provided pursuant to this Section so that the amount of the performance guarantee is equal to the estimated cost of completing the Work. Settling Defendants shall submit a written proposal for such reduction to EPA that shall specify, at a minimum, the estimated cost of completing the Work and the basis upon which such cost was calculated. In seeking approval for a reduction in the amount of the performance guarantee, Settling Defendants shall follow the procedures set forth in Paragraph 47.b(2) for requesting a revised or alternative form of performance guarantee, except as specifically provided in this Paragraph 47.a. If EPA decides to accept Settling Defendants' proposal for a reduction in the amount of the performance guarantee, either to the amount set forth in Settling Defendants' written proposal or to some other amount as selected by EPA, EPA will notify the petitioning Settling Defendants of such decision in writing. Upon EPA's acceptance of a reduction in the amount of the performance guarantee, the Estimated Cost of the Work shall be deemed to be the estimated cost of completing the Work set forth in EPA's written decision. After receiving EPA's written decision, Settling Defendants may reduce the amount of the performance guarantee in accordance with and to the extent permitted by such written acceptance and shall submit copies of all executed and/or otherwise finalized instruments or other documents required in order to make the selected performance guarantee(s) legally binding in accordance with Paragraph 47.b(2). In the event of a dispute, Settling Defendants may reduce the amount of the performance guarantee required hereunder only in accordance with a final administrative or judicial decision resolving such dispute pursuant to Section XIX (Dispute Resolution). No change to the form or terms of any performance guarantee provided under this Section, other than a reduction in amount, is authorized except as provided in Paragraphs 45 or 47.b.

b. Change of Form of Performance Guarantee.

(1) If, after the Effective Date, Settling Defendants desire to change the form or terms of any performance guarantee(s) provided pursuant to this Section, Settling Defendants may, on any anniversary of the Effective Date, or at any other time agreed to by the Parties, petition EPA in writing to request a change in the form or terms of the performance guarantee provided hereunder. The submission of such proposed revised or alternative performance guarantee shall be as provided in Paragraph 47.b(2). Any decision made by EPA on a petition submitted under this Paragraph shall be made in EPA's sole and unreviewable discretion, and such decision shall not be subject to challenge by Settling Defendants pursuant to the dispute resolution provisions of this Consent Decree or in any other forum.

(2) Settling Defendants shall submit a written proposal for a revised or alternative performance guarantee to EPA that shall specify, at a minimum, the estimated cost of completing the Work, the basis upon which such cost was calculated, and the proposed revised performance guarantee, including all proposed instruments or

other documents required in order to make the proposed performance guarantee legally binding. The proposed revised or alternative performance guarantee must satisfy all requirements set forth or incorporated by reference in this Section. Settling Defendants shall submit such proposed revised or alternative performance guarantee to the EPA Regional Financial Management Officer in accordance with Section XXVI (Notices and Submissions), with a copy to the United States and EPA. EPA will notify Settling Defendants in writing of its decision to accept or reject a revised or alternative performance guarantee submitted pursuant to this Paragraph. Within ten days after receiving a written decision approving the proposed revised or alternative performance guarantee, Settling Defendants shall execute and/or otherwise finalize all instruments or other documents required in order to make the selected performance guarantee(s) legally binding in a form substantially identical to the documents submitted to EPA as part of the proposal, and such performance guarantee(s) shall thereupon be fully effective. Settling Defendants shall submit copies of all executed and/or otherwise finalized instruments or other documents required in order to make the selected performance guarantee(s) legally binding to the EPA Regional Financial Management Officer within 30 days after receiving a written decision approving the proposed revised or alternative performance guarantee in accordance with Section XXVI (Notices and Submissions), with a copy to the United States and EPA as specified in Section XXVI.

c. Release of Performance Guarantee. Settling Defendants shall not release, cancel, or discontinue any performance guarantee provided pursuant to this Section except as provided in this Paragraph. If Settling Defendants receive written notice from EPA in accordance with Paragraph 49 that the Work has been fully and finally completed in accordance with the terms of this Consent Decree, or if EPA otherwise so notifies Settling Defendants in writing, Settling Defendants may thereafter release, cancel, or discontinue the performance guarantee(s) provided pursuant to this Section. In the event of a dispute, Settling Defendants may release, cancel, or discontinue the performance guarantee(s) required hereunder only in accordance with a final administrative or judicial decision resolving such dispute pursuant to Section XIX (Dispute Resolution).

#### XIV. CERTIFICATION OF COMPLETION

##### 48. Completion of the Remedial Action.

a. Within 30 days after Settling Defendants conclude that the Remedial Action has been fully performed and the Performance Standards have been achieved, Settling Defendants shall schedule and conduct a pre-certification inspection to be attended by Settling Defendants, EPA, and the State. If, after the pre-certification inspection, Settling Defendants still believe that the Remedial Action has been fully performed and the Performance Standards have been achieved, they shall submit a written report requesting certification to EPA for approval, with a copy to the State, pursuant to Section XI (EPA Approval of Plans, Reports, and Other Deliverables) within 30 days after the inspection. In the report, a registered professional engineer and Settling Defendants' Project Coordinator shall state that the Remedial Action has been completed in full satisfaction of the requirements of this Consent Decree. The written report shall include as-built drawings signed and stamped by a professional engineer. The report shall contain the following statement, signed by a responsible corporate official of a Settling Defendant or Settling Defendants' Project Coordinator:

I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.

If, after completion of the pre-certification inspection and receipt and review of the written report, EPA, after reasonable opportunity for review and comment by the State, determines that the Remedial Action or any portion thereof has not been completed in accordance with this Consent Decree or that the Performance Standards have not been achieved, EPA will notify Settling Defendants in writing of the activities that must be undertaken by Settling Defendants pursuant to this Consent Decree to complete the Remedial Action and achieve the Performance Standards, provided, however, that EPA may only require Settling Defendants to perform such activities pursuant to this Paragraph to the extent that such activities are consistent with the “scope of the remedy set forth in the ROD,” as that term is defined in Paragraph 13.a. EPA will set forth in the notice a schedule for performance of such activities consistent with the Consent Decree and the SOW or require Settling Defendants to submit a schedule to EPA for approval pursuant to Section XI (EPA Approval of Plans, Reports, and Other Deliverables). Settling Defendants shall perform all activities described in the notice in accordance with the specifications and schedules established pursuant to this Paragraph, subject to their right to invoke the dispute resolution procedures set forth in Section XIX (Dispute Resolution).

b. If EPA concludes, based on the initial or any subsequent report requesting Certification of Completion of the Remedial Action and after a reasonable opportunity for review and comment by the State, that the Remedial Action has been performed in accordance with this Consent Decree and that the Performance Standards have been achieved, EPA will so certify in writing to Settling Defendants. This certification shall constitute the Certification of Completion of the Remedial Action for purposes of this Consent Decree, including, but not limited to, Section XXI (Covenants by Plaintiff). Certification of Completion of the Remedial Action shall not affect Settling Defendants’ remaining obligations under this Consent Decree.

#### 49. Completion of the Work.

a. Within 60 days after Settling Defendants conclude that all phases of the Work, other than any remaining activities required under Section VII (Remedy Review), have been fully performed, Settling Defendants shall schedule and conduct a pre-certification inspection to be attended by Settling Defendants, EPA, and the State. If, after the pre-certification inspection, Settling Defendants still believe that the Work has been fully performed, Settling Defendants shall submit a written report by a registered professional engineer stating that the Work has been completed in full satisfaction of the requirements of this Consent Decree. The report shall contain the statement set forth in Paragraph 48.a, signed by a responsible corporate official of a Settling Defendant or Settling Defendants’ Project Coordinator. If, after review of the written report, EPA, after reasonable opportunity for review and comment by the State, determines that any portion of the Work has not been completed in accordance with this Consent Decree, EPA will notify Settling Defendants in writing of the activities that must be undertaken by Settling Defendants pursuant to this Consent Decree to complete the Work,

provided, however, that EPA may only require Settling Defendants to perform such activities pursuant to this Paragraph to the extent that such activities are consistent with the “scope of the remedy set forth in the ROD,” as that term is defined in Paragraph 13.a. EPA will set forth in the notice a schedule for performance of such activities consistent with the Consent Decree and the SOW or require Settling Defendants to submit a schedule to EPA for approval pursuant to Section XI (EPA Approval of Plans, Reports, and Other Deliverables). Settling Defendants shall perform all activities described in the notice in accordance with the specifications and schedules established therein, subject to their right to invoke the dispute resolution procedures set forth in Section XIX (Dispute Resolution).

b. If EPA concludes, based on the initial or any subsequent request for Certification of Completion of the Work by Settling Defendants and after a reasonable opportunity for review and comment by the State, that the Work has been performed in accordance with this Consent Decree, EPA will so notify Settling Defendants in writing.

#### XV. EMERGENCY RESPONSE

50. If any action or occurrence during the performance of the Work that causes or threatens a release of Waste Material from the Site that constitutes an emergency situation or may present an immediate threat to public health or welfare or the environment, Settling Defendants shall, subject to Paragraph 51, immediately take all appropriate action to prevent, abate, or minimize such release or threat of release, and shall immediately notify the EPA’s Project Coordinator, or, if the Project Coordinator is unavailable, EPA’s Alternate Project Coordinator. If neither of these persons is available, Settling Defendants shall notify the EPA Emergency Response Unit, Region 4. Settling Defendants shall take such actions in consultation with EPA’s Project Coordinator or other available authorized EPA officer and in accordance with all applicable provisions of the Health and Safety Plans, the Contingency Plans, and any other applicable plans or documents developed pursuant to the SOW. In the event that Settling Defendants fail to take appropriate response action as required by this Section, and EPA or, as appropriate, the State takes such action instead, Settling Defendants shall reimburse EPA and the State all costs of the response action under Section XVI (Payments for Response Costs).

51. Subject to Section XXI (Covenants by Plaintiffs), nothing in the preceding Paragraph or in this Consent Decree shall be deemed to limit any authority of the United States (a) to take all appropriate action to protect human health and the environment or to prevent, abate, respond to, or minimize an actual or threatened release of Waste Material on, at, or from the Site, or (b) to direct or order such action, or seek an order from the Court, to protect human health and the environment or to prevent, abate, respond to, or minimize an actual or threatened release of Waste Material on, at, or from the Site.



## XVI. PAYMENTS FOR RESPONSE COSTS

### 52. Payment by Settling Defendants for Past Response Costs.

a. Within 30 days after the Effective Date, Settling Defendants shall pay to EPA \$3,401,740.01 in payment for Past Response Costs. Payment shall be made in accordance with Paragraphs 56.a (Instructions for Past Response Cost Payments).

b. The total amount to be paid by Settling Defendants pursuant to Paragraph 52.a shall be deposited by EPA in the Ward Transformer Superfund Site Special Account to be retained and used to conduct or finance response actions at or in connection with the Site, or to be transferred by EPA to the EPA Hazardous Substance Superfund.

53. Payments by Settling Defendants for Future Response Costs. Settling Defendants shall pay to EPA all Future Response Costs not inconsistent with the NCP.

a. On a periodic basis, EPA will send Settling Defendants a bill requiring payment that includes a Superfund Cost Recovery Package Imaging and On-Line System ("SCORPIOS") Report and a DOJ case cost summary. Settling Defendants shall make all payments within 30 days after Settling Defendants' receipt of each bill requiring payment, except as otherwise provided in Paragraph 57, in accordance with Paragraphs 56.b (Instructions for Future Response Cost Payments).

b. The total amount to be paid by Settling Defendants shall be deposited by EPA in the Ward Transformer Superfund Site Special Account to be retained and used to conduct or finance response actions at or in connection with the Site, or to be transferred by EPA to the EPA Hazardous Substance Superfund.

### 54. Payments by Settling Federal Agencies.

#### a. Payment to EPA.

(1) As soon as reasonably practicable after the Effective Date, the United States, on behalf of Settling Federal Agencies, shall pay to EPA \$ \_\_\_\_\_, in payment of Past Response Costs and Future Response Costs.

(2) The total amount to be paid on behalf of Settling Federal Agencies pursuant to this Paragraph shall be deposited by EPA in the Ward Transformer Superfund Site Special Account to be retained and used to conduct or finance response actions at or in connection with the Site, or to be transferred by EPA to the EPA Hazardous Substance Superfund.

b. Payment to Settling Defendants. As soon as reasonably practicable after the Effective Date, the United States, on behalf of Settling Federal Agencies, shall pay to Settling Defendants \$ \_\_\_\_\_ in payment of Settling Defendants' Future Response Costs by Automated Clearing House ("ACH") Electronic Funds Transfer in accordance with instructions provided by Settling Defendants.

c. Interest. In the event that any payment required by Paragraphs 54.a or 54.b, is not made within 120 days after the Effective Date, Interest on the unpaid balance shall be paid at the rate established pursuant to Section 107(a) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9607(a), with such Interest commencing on the 121st day after the Effective Date and accruing through the date of the payment.

55. The Parties to this Consent Decree recognize and acknowledge that the payment obligations of the Settling Federal Agencies under this Consent Decree can only be paid from appropriated funds legally available for such purpose. Nothing in this Consent Decree shall be interpreted or construed as a commitment or requirement that any Settling Federal Agency obligate or pay funds in contravention of the Anti-Deficiency Act, 31 U.S.C. § 1341, or any other applicable provision of law.

56. Payment Instructions for Settling Defendants.

a. Instructions for Past Response Costs Payments and Future Response Costs Prepayments. All payments required, elsewhere in this Consent Decree, to be made in accordance with this Paragraph 56.a shall be made at <https://www.pay.gov> to the U.S. Department of Justice account, in accordance with instructions provided to Settling Defendants by the Financial Litigation Unit (“FLU”) of the United States Attorney’s Office for the Eastern District of North Carolina after the Effective Date. The payment instructions provided by the FLU shall include a Consolidated Debt Collection System (“CDCS”) number, which shall be used to identify all payments required to be made in accordance with this Consent Decree. The FLU shall provide the payment instructions to the representatives identified in Section XXVI (Notices and Submissions) of this Consent Decree on behalf of Settling Defendants. Settling Defendants may change the individual to receive payment instructions on their behalf by providing written notice of such change in accordance with Section XXVI. When making payments under this Paragraph 56.a, Settling Defendants shall also comply with Paragraph 56.c.

b. Instructions for Future Response Costs Payments and Stipulated Penalties. All payments required, elsewhere in this Consent Decree, to be made in accordance with this Paragraph 56.b shall be made by Fedwire EFT to:

Federal Reserve Bank of New York  
ABA = 021030004  
Account = 68010727  
SWIFT address = FRNYUS33  
33 Liberty Street  
New York NY 10045  
Field Tag 4200 of the Fedwire message should read “D 68010727 Environmental Protection Agency”

When making payments under this Paragraph 56.b, Settling Defendants shall also comply with Paragraph 56.c.

c. Instructions for All Payments. All payments made under Paragraphs 56.a (Instructions for Past Response Cost Payments) or 56.b (Instructions for Future Response Cost Payments) shall reference the CDCS Number, Site/Spill ID Number A4S4, and DOJ Case Number \_\_\_\_\_. At the time of any payment required to be made in accordance with Paragraphs 56.a or 56.b, Settling Defendants shall send notice that payment has been made to the United States, and to EPA, in accordance with Section XXVI (Notices and Submissions), and to the EPA Cincinnati Finance Office by email at [acctsreceivable.cinwd@epa.gov](mailto:acctsreceivable.cinwd@epa.gov), or by mail at 26 Martin Luther King Drive, Cincinnati, Ohio 45268. Such notice shall also reference the CDCS Number, Site/Spill ID Number, and DOJ Case Number.

57. Settling Defendants may contest any Future Response Costs billed under Paragraph 53 (Payments by Settling Defendants for Future Response Costs) if they determine that EPA has made a mathematical error or included a cost item that is not within the definition of Future Response Costs, or if they believe EPA incurred excess costs as a direct result of an EPA action that was inconsistent with a specific provision or provisions of the NCP. Such objection shall be made in writing within 30 days after receipt of the bill and must be sent to the United States pursuant to Section XXVI (Notices and Submissions). Any such objection shall specifically identify the contested Future Response Costs and the basis for objection. In the event of an objection, Settling Defendants shall pay all uncontested Future Response Costs to the United States within 30 days after Settling Defendants' receipt of the bill requiring payment. Simultaneously, Settling Defendants shall establish, in a duly chartered bank or trust company, an interest-bearing escrow account that is insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation ("FDIC"), and remit to that escrow account funds equivalent to the amount of the contested Future Response Costs. Settling Defendants shall send to the United States, as provided in Section XXVI (Notices and Submissions), a copy of the transmittal letter and check paying the uncontested Future Response Costs, and a copy of the correspondence that establishes and funds the escrow account, including, but not limited to, information containing the identity of the bank and bank account under which the escrow account is established as well as a bank statement showing the initial balance of the escrow account. Simultaneously with establishment of the escrow account, Settling Defendants shall initiate the Dispute Resolution procedures in Section XIX (Dispute Resolution). If the United States prevails in the dispute, Settling Defendants shall pay the sums due (with accrued interest) to the United States within five days after the resolution of the dispute. If Settling Defendants prevail concerning any aspect of the contested costs, Settling Defendants shall pay that portion of the costs (plus associated accrued interest) for which they did not prevail to the United States within five days after the resolution of the dispute. Settling Defendants shall be disbursed any balance of the escrow account. All payments to the United States under this Paragraph shall be made in accordance with Paragraphs 56.b (Instructions for Future Response Cost Payments). The dispute resolution procedures set forth in this Paragraph in conjunction with the procedures set forth in Section XIX (Dispute Resolution) shall be the exclusive mechanisms for resolving disputes regarding Settling Defendants' obligation to reimburse the United States for its Future Response Costs.

58. Interest. In the event that any payment for Past Response Costs or for Future Response Costs required under this Section is not made by the date required, Settling Defendants shall pay Interest on the unpaid balance. The Interest to be paid on Past Response Costs under this Paragraph shall begin to accrue on the Effective Date. The Interest on Future Response Costs shall begin to accrue on the date of the bill. The Interest shall accrue through the date of Settling Defendants' payment. Payments of Interest made under this Paragraph shall be in addition to such other remedies or sanctions available to Plaintiffs by virtue of Settling Defendants' failure to make timely payments under this Section including, but not limited to, payment of stipulated penalties pursuant to Paragraph 73.

## XVII. INDEMNIFICATION AND INSURANCE

### 59. Settling Defendants' Indemnification of the United States.

a. The United States does not assume any liability by entering into this Consent Decree or by virtue of any designation of Settling Defendants as EPA's authorized representatives under Section 104(e) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9604(e). Settling Defendants

shall indemnify, save and hold harmless the United States and its officials, agents, employees, contractors, subcontractors, or representatives for or from any and all claims or causes of action arising from, or on account of, negligent or other wrongful acts or omissions of Settling Defendants, their officers, directors, employees, agents, contractors, subcontractors, and any persons acting on their behalf or under their control, in carrying out activities pursuant to this Consent Decree, including, but not limited to, any claims arising from any designation of Settling Defendants as EPA's authorized representatives under Section 104(e) of CERCLA. Further, Settling Defendants agree to pay the United States all costs it incurs including, but not limited to, attorneys' fees and other expenses of litigation and settlement arising from, or on account of, claims made against the United States based on negligent or other wrongful acts or omissions of Settling Defendants, their officers, directors, employees, agents, contractors, subcontractors, and any persons acting on their behalf or under their control, in carrying out activities pursuant to this Consent Decree. The United States shall not be held out as a party to any contract entered into by or on behalf of Settling Defendants in carrying out activities pursuant to this Consent Decree. Neither Settling Defendants nor any such contractor shall be considered an agent of the United States.

b. The United States shall give Settling Defendants notice of any claim for which the United States plans to seek indemnification pursuant to this Paragraph 59, and shall consult with Settling Defendants prior to settling such claim.

60. Settling Defendants covenant not to sue and agree not to assert any claims or causes of action against the United States for damages or reimbursement or for set-off of any payments made or to be made to the United States, arising from or on account of any contract, agreement, or arrangement between any one or more of Settling Defendants and any person for performance of Work on or relating to the Site, including, but not limited to, claims on account of construction delays. In addition, Settling Defendants shall indemnify and hold harmless the United States with respect to any and all claims for damages or reimbursement arising from or on account of any contract, agreement, or arrangement between any one or more of Settling Defendants and any person for performance of Work on or relating to the Site, including, but not limited to, claims on account of construction delays.

61. No later than 15 days before commencing any on-site Work, Settling Defendants shall secure, and shall maintain until the first anniversary after issuance of EPA's Certification of Completion of the Remedial Action pursuant to Paragraph 48.b of Section XIV (Certification of Completion), commercial general liability insurance with limits of \$1,000,000, for any one occurrence, and automobile liability insurance with limits of \$1,000,000, combined single limit, naming the United States as an additional insured with respect to all liability arising out of the activities performed by or on behalf of Settling Defendants pursuant to this Consent Decree. In addition, for the duration of this Consent Decree, Settling Defendants shall satisfy, or shall ensure that their contractors or subcontractors satisfy, all applicable laws and regulations regarding the provision of worker's compensation insurance for all persons performing the Work on behalf of Settling Defendants in furtherance of this Consent Decree. Prior to commencement of the Work under this Consent Decree, Settling Defendants shall provide to EPA certificates of such insurance and a copy of each insurance policy. Settling Defendants shall resubmit such certificates and copies of policies each year on the anniversary of the Effective Date. If Settling Defendants demonstrate by evidence satisfactory to EPA that any contractor or subcontractor maintains insurance equivalent to that described above, or insurance covering the same risks but



in a lesser amount, then, with respect to that contractor or subcontractor, Settling Defendants need provide only that portion of the insurance described above that is not maintained by the contractor or subcontractor.

#### XVIII. FORCE MAJEURE

62. “Force majeure,” for purposes of this Consent Decree, is defined as any event arising from causes beyond the control of Settling Defendants, of any entity controlled by Settling Defendants, or of Settling Defendants’ contractors that delays or prevents the performance of any obligation under this Consent Decree despite Settling Defendants’ best efforts to fulfill the obligation. The requirement that Settling Defendants exercise “best efforts to fulfill the obligation” includes using best efforts to anticipate any potential force majeure and best efforts to address the effects of any potential force majeure (a) as it is occurring and (b) following the potential force majeure such that the delay and any adverse effects of the delay are minimized to the greatest extent possible. “Force majeure” does not include financial inability to complete the Work or a failure to achieve the Performance Standards.

63. If any event occurs or has occurred that may delay the performance of any obligation under this Consent Decree for which Settling Defendants intend or may intend to assert a claim of force majeure, Settling Defendants shall notify orally EPA’s Project Coordinator or, in his or her absence, EPA’s Alternate Project Coordinator or, in the event both of EPA’s designated representatives are unavailable, the Director of the Superfund Division, EPA Region 4, within five days of when Settling Defendants first knew that the event might cause a delay. Within 15 days thereafter, Settling Defendants shall provide in writing to EPA an explanation and description of the reasons for the delay; the anticipated duration of the delay; all actions taken or to be taken to prevent or minimize the delay; a schedule for implementation of any measures to be taken to prevent or mitigate the delay or the effect of the delay; Settling Defendants’ rationale for attributing such delay to a force majeure; and a statement as to whether, in the opinion of Settling Defendants, such event may cause or contribute to an endangerment to public health or welfare, or the environment. Settling Defendants shall include with any notice all available documentation supporting their claim that the delay was attributable to a force majeure. Settling Defendants shall be deemed to know of any circumstance of which Settling Defendants, any entity controlled by Settling Defendants, or Settling Defendants’ contractors knew or should have known. Failure to comply with the above requirements regarding an event shall preclude Settling Defendants from asserting any claim of force majeure regarding that event, provided, however, that if EPA, despite the late notice, is able to assess to its satisfaction whether the event is a force majeure under Paragraph 62 and whether Settling Defendants have exercised their best efforts under Paragraph 62, EPA may, in its unreviewable discretion, excuse in writing Settling Defendants’ failure to submit timely notices under this Paragraph.

64. If EPA agrees that the delay or anticipated delay is attributable to a force majeure, the time for performance of the obligations under this Consent Decree that are affected by the force majeure will be extended by EPA for such time as is necessary to complete those obligations. An extension of the time for performance of the obligations affected by the force majeure shall not, of itself, extend the time for performance of any other obligation. If EPA does not agree that the delay or anticipated delay has been or will be caused by a force majeure, EPA will notify Settling Defendants in writing of its decision. If EPA agrees that the delay is

attributable to a force majeure, EPA will notify Settling Defendants in writing of the length of the extension, if any, for performance of the obligations affected by the force majeure.

65. If Settling Defendants elect to invoke the dispute resolution procedures set forth in Section XIX (Dispute Resolution), they shall do so no later than 15 days after receipt of EPA's notice. In any such proceeding, Settling Defendants shall have the burden of demonstrating by a preponderance of the evidence that the delay or anticipated delay has been or will be caused by a force majeure, that the duration of the delay or the extension sought was or will be warranted under the circumstances, that best efforts were exercised to avoid and mitigate the effects of the delay, and that Settling Defendants complied with the requirements of Paragraphs 62 and 63. If Settling Defendants carry this burden, the delay at issue shall be deemed not to be a violation by Settling Defendants of the affected obligation of this Consent Decree identified to EPA and the Court.

#### XIX. DISPUTE RESOLUTION

66. Unless otherwise expressly provided for in this Consent Decree, the dispute resolution procedures of this Section shall be the exclusive mechanism to resolve disputes regarding this Consent Decree. However, the procedures set forth in this Section shall not apply to actions by the United States to enforce obligations of Settling Defendants that have not been disputed in accordance with this Section.

67. Any dispute regarding this Consent Decree shall in the first instance be the subject of informal negotiations between the parties to the dispute. The period for informal negotiations shall not exceed 20 days from the time the dispute arises, unless it is modified by written agreement of the parties to the dispute. The dispute shall be considered to have arisen when one party sends the other parties a written Notice of Dispute.

##### 68. Statements of Position.

a. In the event that the parties cannot resolve a dispute by informal negotiations under the preceding Paragraph, then the position advanced by EPA shall be considered binding unless, within 20 days after the conclusion of the informal negotiation period, Settling Defendants invoke the formal dispute resolution procedures of this Section by serving on the United States a written Statement of Position on the matter in dispute, including, but not limited to, any factual data, analysis, or opinion supporting that position and any supporting documentation relied upon by Settling Defendants. The Statement of Position shall specify Settling Defendants' position as to whether formal dispute resolution should proceed under Paragraph 69 (Record Review) or Paragraph 70.

b. Within 20 days after receipt of Settling Defendants' Statement of Position, EPA will serve on Settling Defendants its Statement of Position, including, but not limited to, any factual data, analysis, or opinion supporting that position and all supporting documentation relied upon by EPA. EPA's Statement of Position shall include a statement as to whether formal dispute resolution should proceed under Paragraph 69 (Record Review) or Paragraph 70. Within 15 days after receipt of EPA's Statement of Position, Settling Defendants may submit a Reply.

c. If there is disagreement between EPA and Settling Defendants as to whether dispute resolution should proceed under Paragraph 69 (Record Review) or Paragraph 70, the parties to the dispute shall follow the procedures set forth in the paragraph determined by EPA to be applicable. However, if Settling Defendants ultimately appeal to the Court to resolve

the dispute, the Court shall determine which paragraph is applicable in accordance with the standards of applicability set forth in Paragraph 69 and 70.

69. Record Review. Formal dispute resolution for disputes pertaining to the selection or adequacy of any response action and all other disputes that are accorded review on the administrative record under applicable principles of administrative law shall be conducted pursuant to the procedures set forth in this Paragraph. For purposes of this Paragraph, the adequacy of any response action includes, without limitation, the adequacy or appropriateness of plans, procedures to implement plans, or any other items requiring approval by EPA under this Consent Decree, and the adequacy of the performance of response actions taken pursuant to this Consent Decree. Nothing in this Consent Decree shall be construed to allow any dispute by Settling Defendants regarding the validity of the ROD's provisions.

a. An administrative record of the dispute shall be maintained by EPA and shall contain all statements of position, including supporting documentation, submitted pursuant to this Section. Where appropriate, EPA may allow submission of supplemental statements of position by the parties to the dispute.

b. The Director of the Superfund Division, EPA Region 4, will issue a final administrative decision resolving the dispute based on the administrative record described in Paragraph 69.a. This decision shall be binding upon Settling Defendants, subject only to the right to seek judicial review pursuant to Paragraphs 69.c and 69.d.

c. Any administrative decision made by EPA pursuant to Paragraph 69.b shall be reviewable by this Court, provided that a motion for judicial review of the decision is filed by Settling Defendants with the Court and served on all Parties within ten days after receipt of EPA's decision. The motion shall include a description of the matter in dispute, the efforts made by the parties to resolve it, the relief requested, and the schedule, if any, within which the dispute must be resolved to ensure orderly implementation of this Consent Decree. The United States may file a response to Settling Defendants' motion.

d. In proceedings on any dispute governed by this Paragraph, Settling Defendants shall have the burden of demonstrating that the decision of the Waste Management Division Director is arbitrary and capricious or otherwise not in accordance with law. Judicial review of EPA's decision shall be on the administrative record compiled pursuant to Paragraph 69.a.

70. Formal dispute resolution for disputes that neither pertain to the selection or adequacy of any response action nor are otherwise accorded review on the administrative record under applicable principles of administrative law, shall be governed by this Paragraph.

a. Following receipt of Settling Defendants' Statement of Position submitted pursuant to Paragraph 68, the Director of the Superfund Division, EPA Region 4, will issue a final decision resolving the dispute. The Waste Management Division Director's decision shall be binding on Settling Defendants unless, within ten days after receipt of the decision, Settling Defendants file with the Court and serve on the parties a motion for judicial review of the decision setting forth the matter in dispute, the efforts made by the parties to resolve it, the relief requested, and the schedule, if any, within which the dispute must be resolved to ensure orderly implementation of the Consent Decree. The United States may file a response to Settling Defendants' motion.

b. Notwithstanding Paragraph M (CERCLA Section 113(j) Record Review of ROD and Work) of Section I (Background), judicial review of any dispute governed by this Paragraph shall be governed by applicable principles of law.

71. The invocation of formal dispute resolution procedures under this Section shall not extend, postpone, or affect in any way any obligation of Settling Defendants under this Consent Decree, not directly in dispute, unless EPA or the Court agrees otherwise. Stipulated penalties with respect to the disputed matter shall continue to accrue but payment shall be stayed pending resolution of the dispute as provided in Paragraph 79. Notwithstanding the stay of payment, stipulated penalties shall accrue from the first day of noncompliance with any applicable provision of this Consent Decree. In the event that Settling Defendants do not prevail on the disputed issue, stipulated penalties shall be assessed and paid as provided in Section XX (Stipulated Penalties).

## XX. STIPULATED PENALTIES

72. Settling Defendants shall be liable for stipulated penalties in the amounts set forth in Paragraphs 73 and 74 to the United States for failure to comply with the requirements of this Consent Decree specified below, unless excused under Section XVIII (Force Majeure). “Compliance” by Settling Defendants shall include completion of all payments and activities required under this Consent Decree, or any plan, report, or other deliverable approved under this Consent Decree, in accordance with all applicable requirements of law, this Consent Decree, the SOW, and any plans, reports, or other deliverables approved under this Consent Decree and within the specified time schedules established by and approved under this Consent Decree.

73. Stipulated Penalty Amounts - Work (Including Payments and Excluding Plans, Reports, and Other Deliverables).

a. The following stipulated penalties shall accrue per violation per day for any noncompliance identified in Paragraph 73.b:

| <u>Penalty Per Violation Per Day</u> | <u>Period of Noncompliance</u> |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| \$2,000                              | 1st through 14th day           |
| \$4,000                              | 15th through 30th day          |
| \$7,000                              | 31st day and beyond            |

b. Compliance Milestones.

(1) Submittal and, if necessary, modification of any and all preliminary and final Remedial Design Work Plans, Remedial Design Work Plans, and Remedial Action Work Plans in accordance with the SOW and the approved schedule contained therein;

(2) Submittal and, if necessary, modification of any significant deliverables as identified in the EPA-approved Remedial Design Work Plans and Remedial Action Work Plans;

(3) Implementation of the approved Remedial Design Work Plans and Remedial Action Work Plans in accordance with the SOW and the approved schedule contained therein;



(4) Submittal and, if necessary, modification of Preliminary, Pre-final, and Final Remedial Design and any significant deliverables as identified in the EPA-approved Final Remedial Design;

(5) Completion of the Remedial Action required under this Consent Decree and SOW;

(6) Submittal and, if necessary, modification of Remedial Action Reports;

(7) Submittal and, if necessary, modification of O&M Plan and O&M Manual;

(8) Establishment and maintenance of the Performance Guarantee as required by Section XIII of this Consent Decree;

(9) Procurement and maintenance of insurance as required by Section XVII of this Consent Decree;

(10) Hiring of an EPA-approved Supervising Contractor, as required by Section VI of this Consent Decree;

(11) Submittal and, if necessary, modification to the SOW and implementation of further response actions pursuant to this Consent Decree;

(12) Payment of all monies required to be paid pursuant to Section XVI of this Consent Decree;

(13) Recording of applicable Institutional Controls and Notices, as required by Section IX of this Consent Decree.

74. Stipulated Penalty Amounts - Plans, Reports, and other Deliverables. The following stipulated penalties shall accrue per violation per day for failure to submit timely or adequate reports or other plans or deliverables pursuant to the Consent Decree:

| <u>Penalty Per Violation Per Day</u> | <u>Period of Noncompliance</u> |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| \$2,000                              | 1st through 14th day           |
| \$4,500                              | 15th through 30th day          |
| \$7,000                              | 31st day and beyond            |

75. In the event that EPA assumes performance of a portion or all of the Work pursuant to Paragraph 87 (Work Takeover), Settling Defendants shall be liable for a stipulated penalty in the amount of \$250,000. Stipulated penalties under this Paragraph are in addition to the remedies available under Paragraphs 46 (Funding for Work Takeover) and 87 (Work Takeover).

76. All penalties shall begin to accrue on the day after the complete performance is due or the day a violation occurs, and shall continue to accrue through the final day of the correction of the noncompliance or completion of the activity. However, stipulated penalties shall not accrue: (a) with respect to a deficient submission under Section XI (EPA Approval of Plans, Reports, and Other Deliverables), during the period, if any, beginning on the 31st day after EPA's receipt of such submission until the date that EPA notifies Settling Defendants of any deficiency; (b) with respect to a decision by the Director of the Superfund Division, EPA Region

4, under Paragraph 69.b or 70.a of Section XIX (Dispute Resolution), during the period, if any, beginning on the 21st day after the date that Settling Defendants' reply to EPA's Statement of Position is received until the date that the Director issues a final decision regarding such dispute; or (c) with respect to judicial review by this Court of any dispute under Section XIX (Dispute Resolution), during the period, if any, beginning on the 31st day after the Court's receipt of the final submission regarding the dispute until the date that the Court issues a final decision regarding such dispute. Nothing in this Consent Decree shall prevent the simultaneous accrual of separate penalties for separate violations of this Consent Decree.

77. Following EPA's determination that Settling Defendants have failed to comply with a requirement of this Consent Decree, EPA may give Settling Defendants written notification of the same and describe the noncompliance. EPA may send Settling Defendants a written demand for the payment of the penalties. However, penalties shall accrue as provided in the preceding Paragraph regardless of whether EPA has notified Settling Defendants of a violation.

78. All penalties accruing under this Section shall be due and payable to the United States within 30 days after Settling Defendants' receipt from EPA of a demand for payment of the penalties, unless Settling Defendants invoke the Dispute Resolution procedures under Section XIX (Dispute Resolution) within the 30-day period. All payments to the United States under this Section shall indicate that the payment is for stipulated penalties, and shall be made in accordance with Paragraphs 56.b (Instructions for Future Response Cost Payments).

79. Penalties shall continue to accrue as provided in Paragraph 76 during any dispute resolution period, but need not be paid until the following:

a. If the dispute is resolved by agreement of the Parties or by a decision of EPA that is not appealed to this Court, accrued penalties determined to be owed shall be paid to EPA within 15 days after the agreement or the receipt of EPA's decision or order;

b. If the dispute is appealed to this Court and the United States prevails in whole or in part, Settling Defendants shall pay all accrued penalties determined by the Court to be owed to EPA within 60 days after receipt of the Court's decision or order, except as provided in Paragraph 79.c;

c. If the District Court's decision is appealed by any Party, Settling Defendants shall pay all accrued penalties determined by the District Court to be owed to the United States into an interest-bearing escrow account, established at a duly chartered bank or trust company that is insured by the FDIC, within 60 days after receipt of the Court's decision or order. Penalties shall be paid into this account as they continue to accrue, at least every 60 days. Within 15 days after receipt of the final appellate court decision, the escrow agent shall pay the balance of the account to EPA or to Settling Defendants to the extent that they prevail.

80. If Settling Defendants fail to pay stipulated penalties when due, Settling Defendants shall pay Interest on the unpaid stipulated penalties as follows: (a) if Settling Defendants have timely invoked dispute resolution such that the obligation to pay stipulated penalties has been stayed pending the outcome of dispute resolution, Interest shall accrue from the date stipulated penalties are due pursuant to Paragraph 79 until the date of payment; and (b) if Settling Defendants fail to timely invoke dispute resolution, Interest shall accrue from the date of demand under Paragraph 78 until the date of payment. If Settling Defendants fail to pay

stipulated penalties and Interest when due, the United States may institute proceedings to collect the penalties and Interest.

81. The payment of penalties and Interest, if any, shall not alter in any way Settling Defendants' obligation to complete the performance of the Work required under this Consent Decree.

82. Nothing in this Consent Decree shall be construed as prohibiting, altering, or in any way limiting the ability of the United States to seek any other remedies or sanctions available by virtue of Settling Defendants' violation of this Consent Decree or of the statutes and regulations upon which it is based, including, but not limited to, penalties pursuant to Section 122(l) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9622(l), provided, however, that the United States shall not seek civil penalties pursuant to Section 122(l) of CERCLA for any violation for which a stipulated penalty is provided in this Consent Decree, except in the case of a willful violation of this Consent Decree.

83. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Section, the United States may, in its unreviewable discretion, waive any portion of stipulated penalties that have accrued pursuant to this Consent Decree.

#### XXI. COVENANTS BY PLAINTIFF

84. Covenants for Settling Defendants by United States. In consideration of the actions that will be performed and the payments that will be made by Settling Defendants under this Consent Decree, and except as specifically provided in Paragraph 86 (General Reservations of Rights) of this Section, the United States covenants not to sue or to take administrative action against Settling Defendants pursuant to Sections 106 and 107(a) of CERCLA for the Work, Past Response Costs, and Future Response Costs. These covenants shall take effect upon the receipt by EPA of the payments required by Paragraph 52.a (Payments for Past Response Costs) and any Interest or stipulated penalties due thereon under Paragraph 58 (Interest) or Section XX (Stipulated Penalties). These covenants are conditioned upon the satisfactory performance by Settling Defendants of their obligations under this Consent Decree. These covenants extend only to Settling Defendants and do not extend to any other person.

85. Covenant for Settling Federal Agencies. In consideration of the payments that will be made by the United States on behalf of Settling Federal Agencies under this Consent Decree, and except as specifically provided in Paragraph 86 (General Reservation of Rights), EPA covenants not to take administrative action against Settling Federal Agencies pursuant to Sections 106 and 107(a) of CERCLA for the Work, Past Response Costs, and Future Response Costs. EPA's covenant shall take effect upon the receipt by EPA of the payments required by Paragraph 54 (Payments by Settling Federal Agencies) and any Interest due thereon under Paragraph 54. EPA's covenant is conditioned upon the satisfactory performance by Settling Federal Agencies of their obligations under this Consent Decree. EPA's covenant extends only to Settling Federal Agencies and does not extend to any other person.

86. General Reservations of Rights. The United States reserves, and this Consent Decree is without prejudice to, all rights against Settling Defendants, and EPA and the federal natural resource trustee reserve, and this Consent Decree is without prejudice to, all rights against Settling Federal Agencies, with respect to all matters not expressly included within Plaintiff's covenants. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Consent Decree, the United

States reserves all rights against Settling Defendants, and EPA and the federal natural resource trustees reserve, and this Consent Decree is without prejudice to, all rights against Settling Federal Agencies, with respect to:

- a. claims based on a failure by Settling Defendants or Settling Federal Agencies to meet a requirement of this Consent Decree;
- b. liability arising from the past, present, or future disposal, release, or threat of release of Waste Material outside of the Site;
- c. liability based on the ownership or operation of the Site by Settling Defendants or Settling Federal Agencies when such ownership or operation commences after signature of this Consent Decree by Settling Defendants or by DOJ on behalf of Settling Federal Agencies;
- d. liability based on Settling Defendants' or Settling Federal Agencies' transportation, treatment, storage, or disposal, or the arrangement for the transportation, treatment, storage, or disposal of Waste Material at or in connection with the Site, other than as provided in the ROD, the Work, or otherwise ordered by EPA, after signature of this Consent Decree by Settling Defendants or by DOJ on behalf of Settling Federal Agencies;
- e. liability for damages for injury to, destruction of, or loss of natural resources, and for the costs of any natural resource damage assessments;
- f. criminal liability;
- g. liability for violations of federal or state law that occur during or after implementation of the Work; and
- h. liability, prior to Certification of Completion of the Remedial Action, for additional response actions that EPA determines are necessary to achieve and maintain Performance Standards or to carry out and maintain the effectiveness of the remedy set forth in the ROD, but that cannot be required pursuant to Paragraph 13 (Modification of SOW or Related Work Plans);
- i. liability for additional operable units at the Site or the final response action;
- j. liability for costs that the United States will incur regarding the Site but that are not within the definition of Future Response Costs;
- k. previously incurred costs of response above the amounts paid pursuant to Paragraph 52.a (Payment of Past Response Costs) and Paragraph 54 (Payments by Settling Federal Agencies);
- l. Liability for costs incurred or to be incurred by the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry regarding the Site.

87. Work Takeover.

- a. In the event EPA determines that Settling Defendants have (1) ceased implementation of any portion of the Work, or (2) are seriously or repeatedly deficient or late in their performance of the Work, or (3) are implementing the Work in a manner that may cause an endangerment to human health or the environment, EPA may issue a written notice ("Work



Takeover Notice”) to Settling Defendants. Any Work Takeover Notice issued by EPA will specify the grounds upon which such notice was issued and will provide Settling Defendants a period of ten days within which to remedy the circumstances giving rise to EPA’s issuance of such notice.

b. If, after expiration of the ten-day notice period specified in Paragraph 87.a, Settling Defendants have not remedied to EPA’s satisfaction the circumstances giving rise to EPA’s issuance of the relevant Work Takeover Notice, EPA may at any time thereafter assume the performance of all or any portion(s) of the Work as EPA deems necessary (“Work Takeover”). EPA will notify Settling Defendants in writing (which writing may be electronic) if EPA determines that implementation of a Work Takeover is warranted under this Paragraph 87.b. Funding of Work Takeover costs is addressed under Paragraph 46.

c. Settling Defendants may invoke the procedures set forth in Paragraph 69 (Record Review), to dispute EPA’s implementation of a Work Takeover under Paragraph 87.b. However, notwithstanding Settling Defendants’ invocation of such dispute resolution procedures, and during the pendency of any such dispute, EPA may in its sole discretion commence and continue a Work Takeover under Paragraph 87.b until the earlier of (1) the date that Settling Defendants remedy, to EPA’s satisfaction, the circumstances giving rise to EPA’s issuance of the relevant Work Takeover Notice, or (2) the date that a final decision is rendered in accordance with Paragraph 69 (Record Review) requiring EPA to terminate such Work Takeover.

88. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Consent Decree, the United States retains all authority and reserves all rights to take any and all response actions authorized by law.

## **XXII. COVENANTS BY SETTLING DEFENDANTS AND SETTLING FEDERAL AGENCIES**

89. Covenants Not to Sue by Settling Defendants. Subject to the reservations in Paragraph 92, Settling Defendants covenant not to sue and agree not to assert any claims or causes of action against the United States with respect to the Work, past response actions regarding the Site, Past Response Costs, Future Response Costs, and this Consent Decree, including, but not limited to:

a. any direct or indirect claim for reimbursement from the Hazardous Substance Superfund (established pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code, 26 U.S.C. § 9507) through CERCLA Sections 106(b)(2), 107, 111, 112 or 113, or any other provision of law;

b. any claims against the United States, including any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States, under CERCLA Sections 107 or 113, RCRA Section 7002(a), 42 U.S.C. § 6972(a), or state law regarding the Work, past response actions regarding the Site, Past Response Costs, Future Response Costs, and this Consent Decree; or

c. any claims arising out of response actions at or in connection with the Site, including any claim under the United States Constitution, the North Carolina Constitution, the Tucker Act, 28 U.S.C. §1491, the Equal Access to Justice Act, 28 U.S.C. § 2412, as amended, or at common law.

90. Covenant by Settling Federal Agencies. Settling Federal Agencies agree not to assert any direct or indirect claim for reimbursement from the Hazardous Substance Superfund (established pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code, 26 U.S.C. § 9507) through CERCLA

Sections 106(b)(2), 107, 111, 112, or 113, or any other provision of law with respect to: the Work, past response actions regarding the Site, Past Response Costs, Future Response Costs, and this Consent Decree. This covenant does not preclude demand for reimbursement from the Superfund of costs incurred by a Settling Federal Agency in the performance of its duties (other than pursuant to this Consent Decree) as lead or support agency under the National Contingency Plan (40 C.F.R. Part 300).

91. Except as provided in: Paragraph 94 (Claims Against De Micromis Parties), Paragraph 96 (Claims Against *De Minimis* and Ability to Pay Parties), and Paragraph 101 (Res Judicata and Other Defenses), the covenants in this Section shall not apply if the United States brings a cause of action or issues an order pursuant to any of the reservations in Section XXI (Covenants by Plaintiff), other than in Paragraphs 86.a (claims for failure to meet a requirement of the Decree), 86.f (criminal liability), and 86.g (violations of federal/state law during or after implementation of the Work), but only to the extent that Settling Defendants' claims arise from the same response action, response costs, or damages that the United States is seeking pursuant to the applicable reservation.

92. Settling Defendants reserve, and this Consent Decree is without prejudice to, claims against the United States, subject to the provisions of Chapter 171 of Title 28 of the United States Code, and brought pursuant to any statute other than CERCLA or RCRA and for which the waiver of sovereign immunity is found in a statute other than CERCLA or RCRA, for money damages for injury or loss of property or personal injury or death caused by the negligent or wrongful act or omission of any employee of the United States, as that term is defined in 28 U.S.C. § 2671, while acting within the scope of his or her office or employment under circumstances where the United States, if a private person, would be liable to the claimant in accordance with the law of the place where the act or omission occurred. However, the foregoing shall not include any claim based on EPA's selection of response actions, or the oversight or approval of Settling Defendants' plans, reports, other deliverables or activities. Settling Defendants also reserve, and this Consent Decree is without prejudice to, contribution claims against Settling Federal Agencies in the event any claim is asserted by the United States against Settling Defendants pursuant to any of the reservations in Section XXI (Covenants by Plaintiff) other than in Paragraphs 86.a (claims for failure to meet a requirement of the Decree), 86.f (criminal liability), and 86.g (violations of federal/state law during or after implementation of the Work), but only to the extent that Settling Defendants' claims arise from the same response action, response costs, or damages that the United States is seeking pursuant to the applicable reservation.

93. Nothing in this Consent Decree shall be deemed to constitute preauthorization of a claim within the meaning of Section 111 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9611, or 40 C.F.R. § 300.700(d).

94. Claims Against De Micromis Parties. Settling Defendants agree not to assert any claims and to waive all claims or causes of action (including but not limited to claims or causes of action under Sections 107(a) and 113 of CERCLA) that they may have for all matters relating to the Site against any person where the person's liability to Settling Defendants with respect to the Site is based solely on having arranged for disposal or treatment, or for transport for disposal or treatment, of hazardous substances at the Site, or having accepted for transport for disposal or treatment of hazardous substances at the Site, if all or part of the disposal, treatment, or transport occurred before April 1, 2001, and the total amount of material containing hazardous substances

contributed by such person to the Site was less than 110 gallons of liquid materials or 200 pounds of solid materials.

95. The waiver in Paragraph 94 (Claims Against De Micromis Parties) shall not apply with respect to any defense, claim, or cause of action that a Settling Defendant may have against any person meeting the criteria in Paragraph 94 if such person asserts a claim or cause of action relating to the Site against such Settling Defendant. This waiver also shall not apply to any claim or cause of action against any person meeting the criteria in Paragraph 94 if EPA determines:

a. that such person has failed to comply with any EPA requests for information or administrative subpoenas issued pursuant to Section 104(e) or 122(e) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9604(e) or 9622(e), or Section 3007 of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6927, or has impeded or is impeding, through action or inaction, the performance of a response action or natural resource restoration with respect to the Site, or has been convicted of a criminal violation for the conduct to which this waiver would apply and that conviction has not been vitiated on appeal or otherwise; or

b. that the materials containing hazardous substances contributed to the Site by such person have contributed significantly, or could contribute significantly, either individually or in the aggregate, to the cost of response action or natural resource restoration at the Site.

96. Claims Against De Minimis and Ability to Pay Parties. Settling Defendants agree not to assert any claims or causes of action and to waive all claims or causes of action (including but not limited to claims or causes of action under Sections 107(a) and 113 of CERCLA) that they may have for response costs relating to the Site against any person that has entered or in the future enters into a final CERCLA Section 122(g) *de minimis* settlement, or a final settlement based on limited ability to pay, with EPA with respect to the Site. This waiver shall not apply with respect to any defense, claim, or cause of action that a Settling Defendant may have against any person if such person asserts a claim or cause of action relating to the Site against such Settling Defendant.

### XXIII. EFFECT OF SETTLEMENT; CONTRIBUTION

97. Except as provided in Paragraph 94 (Claims Against De Micromis Parties), and Paragraph 96 (Claims Against *De Minimis* and Ability to Pay Parties), nothing in this Consent Decree shall be construed to create any rights in, or grant any cause of action to, any person not a Party to this Consent Decree. Except as provided in Paragraph 94 (Claims Against De Micromis Parties), and Paragraph 96 (Claims Against *De Minimis* and Ability to Pay Parties), each of the Parties expressly reserves any and all rights (including, but not limited to, pursuant to Section 113 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9613), defenses, claims, demands, and causes of action that each Party may have with respect to any matter, transaction, or occurrence relating in any way to the Site against any person not a Party hereto. Nothing in this Consent Decree diminishes the right of the United States, pursuant to Section 113(f)(2) and (3) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9613(f)(2)-(3), to pursue any such persons to obtain additional response costs or response action and to enter into settlements that give rise to contribution protection pursuant to Section 113(f)(2).

98. The Parties agree, and by entering this Consent Decree this Court finds, that this Consent Decree constitutes a judicially approved settlement for purposes of Section 113(f)(2) of

CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9613(f)(2), and that each Settling Defendant and each Settling Federal Agency is entitled, as of the Effective Date, to protection from contribution actions or claims as provided by Section 113(f)(2) of CERCLA, or as may be otherwise provided by law, for “matters addressed” in this Consent Decree. The “matters addressed” in this Consent Decree are the Work, Past Response Costs, and Future Response Costs as defined herein.

99. Each Settling Defendant shall, with respect to any suit or claim brought by it for matters related to this Consent Decree, notify the United States in writing no later than 60 days prior to the initiation of such suit or claim.

100. Each Settling Defendant shall, with respect to any suit or claim brought against it for matters related to this Consent Decree, notify in writing the United States within ten days after service of the complaint on such Settling Defendant. In addition, each Settling Defendant shall notify the United States within ten days after service or receipt of any Motion for Summary Judgment and within ten days after receipt of any order from a court setting a case for trial.

101. Res Judicata and Other Defenses. In any subsequent administrative or judicial proceeding initiated by the United States for injunctive relief, recovery of response costs, or other appropriate relief relating to the Site, Settling Defendants and, with respect to a State action, Settling Federal Agencies shall not assert, and may not maintain, any defense or claim based upon the principles of waiver, res judicata, collateral estoppel, issue preclusion, claim-splitting, or other defenses based upon any contention that the claims raised by the United States in the subsequent proceeding were or should have been brought in the instant case; provided, however, that nothing in this Paragraph affects the enforceability of the covenants not to sue set forth in Section XXI (Covenants by Plaintiffs).

#### XXIV. ACCESS TO INFORMATION

102. Settling Defendants shall provide to EPA, upon request, copies of all records, reports, documents, and other information (including records, reports, documents, and other information in electronic form) (hereinafter referred to as “Records”) within their possession or control or that of their contractors or agents relating to activities at the Site or to the implementation of this Consent Decree, including, but not limited to, sampling, analysis, chain of custody records, manifests, trucking logs, receipts, reports, sample traffic routing, correspondence, or other documents or information regarding the Work. Settling Defendants shall also make available to EPA, for purposes of investigation, information gathering, or testimony, their employees, agents, or representatives with knowledge of relevant facts concerning the performance of the Work.

##### 103. Business Confidential and Privileged Documents.

a. Settling Defendants may assert business confidentiality claims covering part or all of the Records submitted to Plaintiffs under this Consent Decree to the extent permitted by and in accordance with Section 104(e)(7) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9604(e)(7), and 40 C.F.R. § 2.203(b). Records determined to be confidential by EPA will be afforded the protection specified in 40 C.F.R. Part 2, Subpart B. If no claim of confidentiality accompanies Records when they are submitted to EPA and the State, or if EPA has notified Settling Defendants that the Records are not confidential under the standards of Section 104(e)(7) of CERCLA or 40 C.F.R. Part 2, Subpart B, the public may be given access to such Records without further notice to Settling Defendants.



b. Settling Defendants may assert that certain Records are privileged under the attorney-client privilege or any other privilege recognized by federal law. If Settling Defendants assert such a privilege in lieu of providing Records, they shall provide Plaintiff with the following: (1) the title of the Record; (2) the date of the Record; (3) the name, title, affiliation (e.g., company or firm), and address of the author of the Record; (4) the name and title of each addressee and recipient; (5) a description of the contents of the Record; and (6) the privilege asserted by Settling Defendants. If a claim of privilege applies only to a portion of a Record, the Record shall be provided to the United States in redacted form to mask the privileged portion only. Settling Defendants shall retain all Records that they claim to be privileged until the United States has had a reasonable opportunity to dispute the privilege claim and any such dispute has been resolved in the Settling Defendants' favor.

c. No Records created or generated pursuant to the requirements of this Consent Decree shall be withheld from the United States or the State on the grounds that they are privileged or confidential.

104. No claim of confidentiality or privilege shall be made with respect to any data, including, but not limited to, all sampling, analytical, monitoring, hydrogeologic, scientific, chemical, or engineering data, or any other documents or information evidencing conditions at or around the Site.

## **XXV. RETENTION OF RECORDS**

105. Until ten years after Settling Defendants' receipt of EPA's notification pursuant to Paragraph 49.b (Completion of the Work), each Settling Defendant shall preserve and retain all non-identical copies of Records (including Records in electronic form) now in its possession or control or that come into its possession or control that relate in any manner to its liability under CERCLA with respect to the Site, provided, however, that Settling Defendants who are potentially liable as owners or operators of the Site must retain, in addition, all Records that relate to the liability of any other person under CERCLA with respect to the Site. Each Settling Defendant must also retain, and instruct its contractors and agents to preserve, for the same period of time specified above all non-identical copies of the last draft or final version of any Records (including Records in electronic form) now in its possession or control or that come into its possession or control that relate in any manner to the performance of the Work, provided, however, that each Settling Defendant (and its contractors and agents) must retain, in addition, copies of all data generated during the performance of the Work and not contained in the aforementioned Records required to be retained. Each of the above record retention requirements shall apply regardless of any corporate retention policy to the contrary.

106. The United States acknowledges that each Settling Federal Agency (a) is subject to all applicable Federal record retention laws, regulations, and policies; and (b) has certified that it has fully complied with any and all EPA and State requests for information pursuant to Sections 104(e) and 122(e) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 9604(e) and 9622(e), and Section 3007 of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6927.

107. At the conclusion of this record retention period, Settling Defendants shall notify the United States and the State at least 90 days prior to the destruction of any such Records, and, upon request by the United States or the State, Settling Defendants shall deliver any such Records to EPA or the State. Settling Defendants may assert that certain Records are privileged under the attorney-client privilege or any other privilege recognized by federal law. If Settling

Defendants assert such a privilege, they shall provide Plaintiffs with the following: (a) the title of the Record; (b) the date of the Record; (c) the name, title, affiliation (e.g., company or firm), and address of the author of the Record; (d) the name and title of each addressee and recipient; (e) a description of the subject of the Record; and (f) the privilege asserted by Settling Defendants. If a claim of privilege applies only to a portion of a Record, the Record shall be provided to the United States in redacted form to mask the privileged portion only. Settling Defendants shall retain all Records that they claim to be privileged until the United States has had a reasonable opportunity to dispute the privilege claim and any such dispute has been resolved in the Settling Defendants' favor. However, no Records created or generated pursuant to the requirements of this Consent Decree shall be withheld on the grounds that they are privileged or confidential.

108. Each Settling Defendant certifies individually that, to the best of its knowledge and belief, after thorough inquiry, it has not altered, mutilated, discarded, destroyed, or otherwise disposed of any Records (other than identical copies) relating to its potential liability regarding the Site since the earlier of notification of potential liability by the United States or the State or the filing of suit against it regarding the Site and that it has fully complied with any and all EPA and State requests for information pursuant to Sections 104(e) and 122(e) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 9604(e) and 9622(e), and Section 3007 of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6927.

#### XXVI. NOTICES AND SUBMISSIONS

109. Whenever, under the terms of this Consent Decree, written notice is required to be given or a report or other document is required to be sent by one Party to another, it shall be directed to the individuals at the addresses specified below, unless those individuals or their successors give notice of a change to the other Parties in writing. All notices and submissions shall be considered effective upon receipt, unless otherwise provided. Written notice as specified in this Section shall constitute complete satisfaction of any written notice requirement of the Consent Decree with respect to the United States, EPA, Settling Federal Agencies, and Settling Defendants, respectively. Notices required to be sent to EPA, and not to the United States, under the terms of this Consent Decree should not be sent to the U.S. Department of Justice.

As to the United States:

Chief, Environmental Enforcement Section  
Environment and Natural Resources Division  
U.S. Department of Justice  
P.O. Box 7611  
Washington, D.C. 20044-7611  
Re: DJ # \_\_\_\_\_

and:

Chief, Environmental Defense Section  
Environment and Natural Resources Division  
U.S. Department of Justice  
P.O. Box 23986  
Washington, D.C. 20026-3986  
Re: DJ # \_\_\_\_\_

As to EPA:

Franklin E. Hill  
Director, Superfund Division  
United States Environmental Protection Agency  
Region 4  
61 Forsyth Street, SW  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

and:

Luis E. Flores  
Remedial Project Manager  
United States Environmental Protection Agency  
Region 4  
61 Forsyth Street, SW  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

As to the Regional Financial  
Management Officer:

Paula V. Painter  
Superfund Division  
United States Environmental Protection Agency  
Region 4  
61 Forsyth Street, SW  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

As to the State:

Nile Testerman  
State Project Coordinator  
North Carolina Department of Environment and  
Natural Resources  
Division of Waste Management  
1646 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-1646

As to Settling Federal Agencies

[NAME]  
[Address]

As to Settling Defendants:

[Name]  
Settling Defendants' Project Coordinator  
[Address]

## XXVII. RETENTION OF JURISDICTION

110. This Court retains jurisdiction over both the subject matter of this Consent Decree and Settling Defendants for the duration of the performance of the terms and provisions of this Consent Decree for the purpose of enabling any of the Parties to apply to the Court at any time for such further order, direction, and relief as may be necessary or appropriate for the construction or modification of this Consent Decree, or to effectuate or enforce compliance with its terms, or to resolve disputes in accordance with Section XIX (Dispute Resolution).

## XXVIII. APPENDICES

111. The following appendices are attached to and incorporated into this Consent Decree:

“Appendix A” is the complete list of Settling Defendants.

“Appendix B” is the SOW.

“Appendix C” is the ROD.

“Appendix D” is the description and/or map of the Site.

“Appendix E” is the performance guarantee.

## XXIX. COMMUNITY RELATIONS

112. If requested by EPA, Settling Defendants shall participate in community relations activities pursuant to the community relations plan to be developed by EPA. EPA will determine the appropriate role for Settling Defendants under the Plan. Settling Defendants shall also cooperate with EPA in providing information regarding the Work to the public. As requested by EPA, Settling Defendants shall participate in the preparation of such information for dissemination to the public and in public meetings that may be held or sponsored by EPA to explain activities at or relating to the Site. Costs incurred by the United States under this Section, including the costs of any technical assistance grant under Section 117(e) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9617(e), shall be considered Future Response Costs that Settling Defendants shall pay pursuant to Section XVI (Payments for Response Costs).

## XXX. MODIFICATION

113. Except as provided in Paragraph 13 (Modification of SOW or Related Work Plans), material modifications to this Consent Decree, including the SOW, shall be in writing, signed by the United States and Settling Defendants, and shall be effective upon approval by the Court. Except as provided in Paragraph 13, non-material modifications to this Consent Decree, including the SOW, shall be in writing and shall be effective when signed by duly authorized representatives of the United States and Settling Defendants. A modification to the SOW shall be considered material if it fundamentally alters the basic features of the selected remedy within the meaning of 40 C.F.R. § 300.435(c)(2)(ii). Before providing its approval to any modification to the SOW, the United States will provide the State with a reasonable opportunity to review and comment on the proposed modification.

114. Nothing in this Consent Decree shall be deemed to alter the Court’s power to enforce, supervise, or approve modifications to this Consent Decree.



#### XXXI. LODGING AND OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

115. This Consent Decree shall be lodged with the Court for a period of not less than 30 days for public notice and comment in accordance with Section 122(d)(2) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9622(d)(2), and 28 C.F.R. § 50.7. The United States reserves the right to withdraw or withhold its consent if the comments regarding the Consent Decree disclose facts or considerations that indicate that the Consent Decree is inappropriate, improper, or inadequate. Settling Defendants consent to the entry of this Consent Decree without further notice.

116. If for any reason the Court should decline to approve this Consent Decree in the form presented, this agreement is voidable at the sole discretion of any Party and the terms of the agreement may not be used as evidence in any litigation between the Parties.

#### XXXII. SIGNATORIES/SERVICE

117. Each undersigned representative of a Settling Defendant to this Consent Decree and the Assistant Attorney General for the Environment and Natural Resources Division of the Department of Justice certifies that he or she is fully authorized to enter into the terms and conditions of this Consent Decree and to execute and legally bind such Party to this document.

118. Each Settling Defendant agrees not to oppose entry of this Consent Decree by this Court or to challenge any provision of this Consent Decree unless the United States has notified Settling Defendants in writing that it no longer supports entry of the Consent Decree.

119. Each Settling Defendant shall identify, on the attached signature page, the name, address, and telephone number of an agent who is authorized to accept service of process by mail on behalf of that Party with respect to all matters arising under or relating to this Consent Decree. Settling Defendants agree to accept service in that manner and to waive the formal service requirements set forth in Rule 4 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and any applicable local rules of this Court, including, but not limited to, service of a summons. Settling Defendants need not file an answer to the complaint in this action unless or until the Court expressly declines to enter this Consent Decree.

#### XXXIII. FINAL JUDGMENT

120. This Consent Decree and its appendices constitute the final, complete, and exclusive agreement and understanding among the Parties regarding the settlement embodied in the Consent Decree. The Parties acknowledge that there are no representations, agreements, or understandings relating to the settlement other than those expressly contained in this Consent Decree.

121. Upon entry of this Consent Decree by the Court, this Consent Decree shall constitute a final judgment between and among the United States and Settling Defendants. The Court finds that there is no just reason for delay and therefore enters this judgment as a final judgment under Fed. R. Civ. P. 54 and 58.

Signature Page for Consent Decree regarding the Ward Transformer Superfund Site

SO ORDERED THIS \_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_.

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United States District Judge

Signature Page for Consent Decree regarding the Ward Transformer Superfund Site

**FOR THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
[Name]  
Assistant Attorney General  
Environment and Natural Resources Division  
U.S. Department of Justice  
Washington, D.C. 20530

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lori Jonas  
Environmental Enforcement Section  
Environment and Natural Resources Division  
U.S. Department of Justice  
P.O. Box 7611  
Washington, D.C. 20044-7611

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
[Name]  
Environmental Defense Section  
Environment and Natural Resources Division  
U.S. Department of Justice  
P.O. Box 23986  
Washington, D.C. 20026-3986

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
[Name]  
United States Attorney  
Eastern District of North Carolina  
[Address]

Signature Page for Consent Decree regarding the Ward Transformer Superfund Site

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Date

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Franklin E. Hill  
Director, Superfund Division  
United States Environmental Protection Agency  
Region 4  
61 Forsyth Street, S.W.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

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Date

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Matthew L. Hicks  
Associate Regional Counsel  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Region 4  
61 Forsyth Street, S.W.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303



Signature Page for Consent Decree regarding the Ward Transformer Superfund Site

**FOR \_\_\_\_\_ COMPANY, INC.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name (print):

Title:

Address:

Agent Authorized to Accept Service  
on Behalf of Above-signed Party:

Name (print):

Title:

Address:

Phone:

email: